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## Solidarity in Action: Norwegian People's Aid Annual Report 2014

Norwegian People's Aid

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Norwegian People's Aid

# Solidarity in Action

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

A fearless organisation with strong opinions

Result-oriented and solution-focused

Taking a stand based on knowledge and experience

Challenging power and injustice in collaboration with vulnerable groups

Undertaking solidarity in action – not charity

### **Our vision**

Solidarity in action is the vision of Norwegian People's Aid. Our efforts are based on cooperation between equal partners – not charity.

### **Our foundation**

Norwegian People's Aid is the labour movement's humanitarian organisation for solidarity.

### **Our mission**

We work both nationally and internationally to improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups and to contribute to a just society. We support people so that they may protect and promote their own interests.

### **Our reach**

Norwegian People's Aid is active in 40 countries. We work with development cooperation through partner organisations. In Norway, we work with refugee and integration issues, and our health and rescue teams make an important contribution to voluntary national preparedness.





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## Foreword by the Secretary General: Major disasters – little boys

Photo: Thomas Brown



**2014 was a challenging year. The world experienced more serious humanitarian crises and more refugees than we have had at any time since World War II. But a small Norwegian seven-year-old gave me faith in a better future after all.**

The Middle East was on fire. The roughly 50-day war in Gaza cost over 2,000 lives, most of whom were civilians. Meanwhile ISIL declared its caliphate in Iraq (and the Levant). We saw massive recruitment to jihadist groups in the Middle East, also from our cities in Europe. Jihadist attacks in Europe created new tensions between groups here at home and increased the need for integration,

tolerance and preparedness. At the same time, the crisis in the Ukraine increased tensions between Russia and the West.

### **Just as relevant as in 1939**

Inequality between the large numbers of poor and those few who enjoy wealth and prosperity rose in many countries, creating greater social tension and unrest. In a world marked

by humanitarian disasters and major refugee flows created by political and human conditions, this is a powerful warning about the need not only for action and leadership, but also for emergency response efforts, volunteers, public participation and humanitarian aid. Norwegian People's Aid is just as relevant today as when we started in 1939.



NPA is a true child of the labour movement and we embarked upon our anniversary year in 2014 with a proud history behind us. Since its establishment and original focus on worker health and international solidarity 75 years ago, NPA has contributed to national and international solidarity work, emergency relief, rescue operations, inclusion and disarmament efforts. We have also had the ability to innovate in terms of where help is needed, what kind of effort is needed and when the public, our partners or others should take over.

### **Strengthened organisation**

Norwegian People's Aid became stronger in 2014. As we approach our 2015 national congress, we have more members, more local chapters and more activity here at home. We have also strengthened our ties to the labour movement. Visibility, clarity, professionalism, energy and taking a stand when needed are all important keywords and ambitions in our work both at home and abroad. Just as before, we are working in a number of areas in an extension of our members' involvement and interests.

Our volunteer rescue service constitutes an important pillar for Norwegian emergency preparedness. Looking for missing people out in the fields, in the water, in the mountains and in the city can be a challenging task, and our members in NPA Rescue Service take on these tasks voluntarily. Our people are often the first on the scene: ready at all hours of the day, providing an additional layer of safety to the local community. Last year, we participated in 316 rescue operations, an increase of 50 per cent from 2013. In addition, our Youth Health and Rescue groups help cultivate the next generation of avalanche experts and rescuers.

### **Integration in focus**

Preparedness is also about creating a more tolerant society with room for diversity and mutual respect. The terrorist attacks of 22 July 2011

showed us very clearly that the struggle against extremism is more important than ever. The recent attacks in Europe have confirmed the need for active efforts for integration and against radicalisation and underlined the relevance of our work with integration both in the workplace and in the community at large.

### **Spearhead for a nuclear weapons ban**

We are one of the world's leading organisations in humanitarian disarmament. Last year we destroyed more than 23,000 cluster munitions, more than 5,600 mines and more than 31,000 other explosive remnants of war. Our efforts allow people to move more freely, to cultivate the land and to let their children enjoy the playground and get safely to and from school. In addition to our work with humanitarian disarmament, NPA has been continuously working actively through political channels to prevent the use of unacceptable weapons that have significant collateral consequences for the civilian population and/or do not distinguish between civilian and military targets. That's why we worked together with other organisations to ban landmines and cluster munitions. Today, such weapons are prohibited. Now, we are using the same approach to get a ban on nuclear weapons. NPA Youth for Solidarity has taken on this cause as their primary focus and has become a spearhead in this campaign.

### **Desperately in need of help**

War and conflict have led to great suffering for the civilian population in many of the countries where we work. Norwegian People's Aid had to quickly initiate relief operations in Iraq, South Sudan and Gaza. In South Sudan, we have handed out food aid to 340,000 people in desperate need of assistance in the ongoing civil war. Emergency relief was also a large part of our efforts in Iraq and Syria. Our long and close collaboration with partners in Kurdistan, Iraq and Lebanon have given us and our partners access

to parts of Syria and Iraq which have been difficult to access for others. In Syria, we provided food aid to 60,000 people. During the war in Gaza, we were one of the visible international actors pushing for an end to warfare, an end to the blockade and in the struggle to hold Israel accountable and end the occupation.

Parallel with these massive international relief efforts, we also continued our efforts to help build democracy in a number of countries. Regimes controlled by an elite ruling class cannot be changed overnight. It requires persistent work and strong organisation. Many have sacrificed much throughout history in the struggle for a better society and a just distribution of resources. The over 300 organisations we work with, know that alone we are weak, but if we get organised and stand together, we will be strong enough to bring about the changes we are looking for.

### **The seven year-old who wanted to share**

Everything we did in 2014 and all the results we achieved, would not have been possible without our partners, trade unions, donors, members and volunteers. Every contribution – big or small – helps us to keep working for a better world. When seven year-old Amund Elias Noteng from Ler in Melhus, instead of birthday presents for himself, wanted money that he could donate to our work in Gaza during the war in 2014, it gives me faith in the future.

## Good supporters give great results

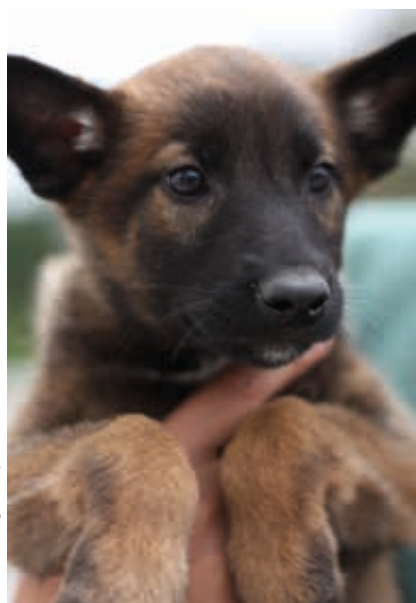
**Collaboration with old and new supporters in 2014 not only brought in important income for our work both at home and abroad but has also given our work greater impact and influence. We look forward to continued collaboration with our supporters in the years ahead.**

### Important partners

NPA's largest and most important private partner in Norway is Coop. Coop members and customers support our partnership by donating the deposit from recycling machines in Coop stores. In 2014, NPA was again present at "Coop Week" with Coop Øst, where we had a stand to inform customers about the partnership.

The Kavli Trust is also one of our key partners. They support farmers in South Sudan with the profits from the sale of food in Norway. This support entails giving farmers new and better knowledge of food production.

Through our business concept *Employ a mine dog*, we were able to employ two new dogs thanks to Jernbanepersonalets Bank og Forsikring. The puppies are named Mina and Mino and will be sponsored by the company for three years.



Photos: Norwegian People's Aid

### More regular donors

We greatly appreciate our regular donors. We call them *Folkehjelpere*. Folkehjelpere are loyal and stay connected with us for many years. Thanks to successful recruitment campaigns, the numbers of Folkehjelpere increased by 19 per cent in 2014. Being a Folkehjelper is about supporting people to put them in a position to be able to change their lives.

### Crisis fundraising campaigns

At the start of 2014, there was a continued focus on helping the Syrian refugees.



Photo: Mahmoud Hamada

The money that was raised was used for aid packages to help displaced people through a tough winter.

In the spring of 2014, large parts of Central Europe were hit by a violent flood. NPA raised money for those who were affected by the floods in

Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our focus was on securing mine-infested areas.

In July 2014, war broke once again in Gaza. Civilians were subjected to heavy bombardment from the Israeli side. NPA and Norwegian trade unions raised money to help the civilian population.

### My campaign

Our web based fundraising tool "My campaign" was launched in 2013. It allows individuals, corporations and unions choose to start their own campaigns to raise money for selected purposes. The concept is based on spreading the word via email and social media to the contact network of those starting campaigns. A total of almost NOK 1.8 million was raised in 2014, primarily for Syria and Gaza.

### 1 May 2014

*People change the world* is the annual fundraising campaign held by NPA and the entire Norwegian labour movement to celebrate International Workers' Day on 1 May. The themes for 2014 were support for freedom of speech, freedom of association and the right to participate in political activity. The campaign put the spotlight on Colombia, Myanmar, South Africa and Palestine. A total of more than NOK 700,000 was collected through grants and door-to-door collection boxes.

Our close partnership with the Norwegian trade union movement continued to be positive both politically and economically in 2014. Funds received by NPA from the trade union movement are largely used to finance the deductibles covered by NPA under the framework agreement with NORAD.

## Cooperation with the trade union movement



Photo: Elvor Eriksen

*In celebration of NPA's 75th anniversary, we signed a contract with the Norwegian Seafarers' Union to provide support for the national rescue service. General Secretary Liv Tørres, Director of NPA's Health and Rescue Service Live Kummen and Union Leader Johnny Hansen.*

### A selection of activities from 2014:

- The Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees extended its partnership agreement with NPA by NOK 19.4 million for the period 2014–2017. These funds will go to Palestine, Lebanon and Laos. In addition, political advocacy in support of the Palestinians and commitment in relation to union officers and members are central to this partnership. Two ambassadorial trips were made, one to Lebanon and one to Palestine.
- The Norwegian Transport Workers' Union extended its partnership agreement for four more years. Altogether, NOK 750,000 will go to women in South Sudan and the mine dog centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- At its national congress, NTL adopted a resolution to enter into a partnership agreement over the next four years with NOK 600,000. This support will help combat violence against women in Rwanda and will in the longer term create commitment internally in the union through an ambassador corps.
- The Norwegian Union of Social Educators and Social Workers (FO) signed a one-year pilot agreement to support women's rights in South Sudan for NOK 200,000. A key aspect of this partnership is the creation of an ambassador corps consisting of members of the Norwegian Union of Municipal and Social Educators and Social Workers from Akershus and Hedmark.
- A new agreement was signed with the Norwegian Seafarers' Union with support to the national rescue services. The union will be supporting this work with NOK 25 per member per year until 2017. This will provide approximately NOK 1 million to our health and rescue work.
- The Norwegian Engineers and Managers Association (FLT) signed a partnership agreement on mine clearance and vocational schools in South Sudan.
- At its national congress, Industri Energi passed a resolution to continue its partnership with NPA in South Sudan, with particular focus on oil workers.
- In our work to combat radicalisation and extremism in Norway, we entered into a political partnership with the Norwegian Prison and Probation Officers Union in 2014.
- The trade union movement was strongly represented at the NPA 75-year anniversary celebration.
- The leadership of the Norwegian Union of Commerce and Office Employees visited the Norwegian People's Aid Mine Dog Centre in Sarajevo.
- We had stands and made appeals across the country, often with the participation of local members of Norwegian People's Aid.





Political Advisor, Ingeborg Moa and Rescue Service and First Aid Leader, Jon Halvorsen in parliamentary hearing on the rescue service.

**NPA conducts practical solidarity work worldwide. We take a stand based on experiences gathered in our daily work. Taking field experiences into political advocacy work is a deliberate strategy, and enables NPA to contribute to important political changes worldwide.**

### Strengthened volunteerism

During the hearings on the 2015 State Budget, we received approval from the Justice Committee for the following joint statement: *In connection with the State Budget for 2016, the Committee requests that the government make an assessment of the need for a strengthening of the frameworks for NGOs performing rescue services.* We hope to realise the benefits of this statement when the 2016 State Budget is presented, by the government at least partially meeting our request to increase the subsidy allocated to voluntary rescue resources in the State Budget from NOK 19.6 million to NOK 65 million.

### Continued support

The government wanted to cut NOK 3 million in funding to the Au Pair Center that NPA operates in cooperation with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees. We managed to gain backing for continued support to the centre.

### Independent Council on Ethics

In the spring of 2014, during the hearings on the white paper on the Government Pension Fund Global (GPF) (2013–14), we convinced the parliamentary majority not to accept the government's proposal that the Council on Ethics should be incorpo-

rated into Norges Bank. This is why we still have an independent Council on Ethics.

### Dangerous liaisons

Since 2012, NPA, in cooperation with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees, has been in dialogue with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the necessity of issuing a recommendation from the government that discourages Norwegian trade and industry from establishing economic relations with actors who support violations to human rights and international law related to the occupation of Gaza. During 2014, 17 European countries made similar recommendations to their own trade and industry sectors.

In 2014, NPA and the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees requested a meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss the matter. This was not granted, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not yet made any recommendations to Norwegian trade and industry. We have also held meetings with other political parties. The Norwegian Labour Party has helped to put the issue on the agenda by communicating the need for an industry recommendation both in the media and in the Parliament. This lobbying has led to a number of media

reports, including in Dagbladet, Dagens Næringsliv, Dagsrevyen, Morgenbladet and VG.

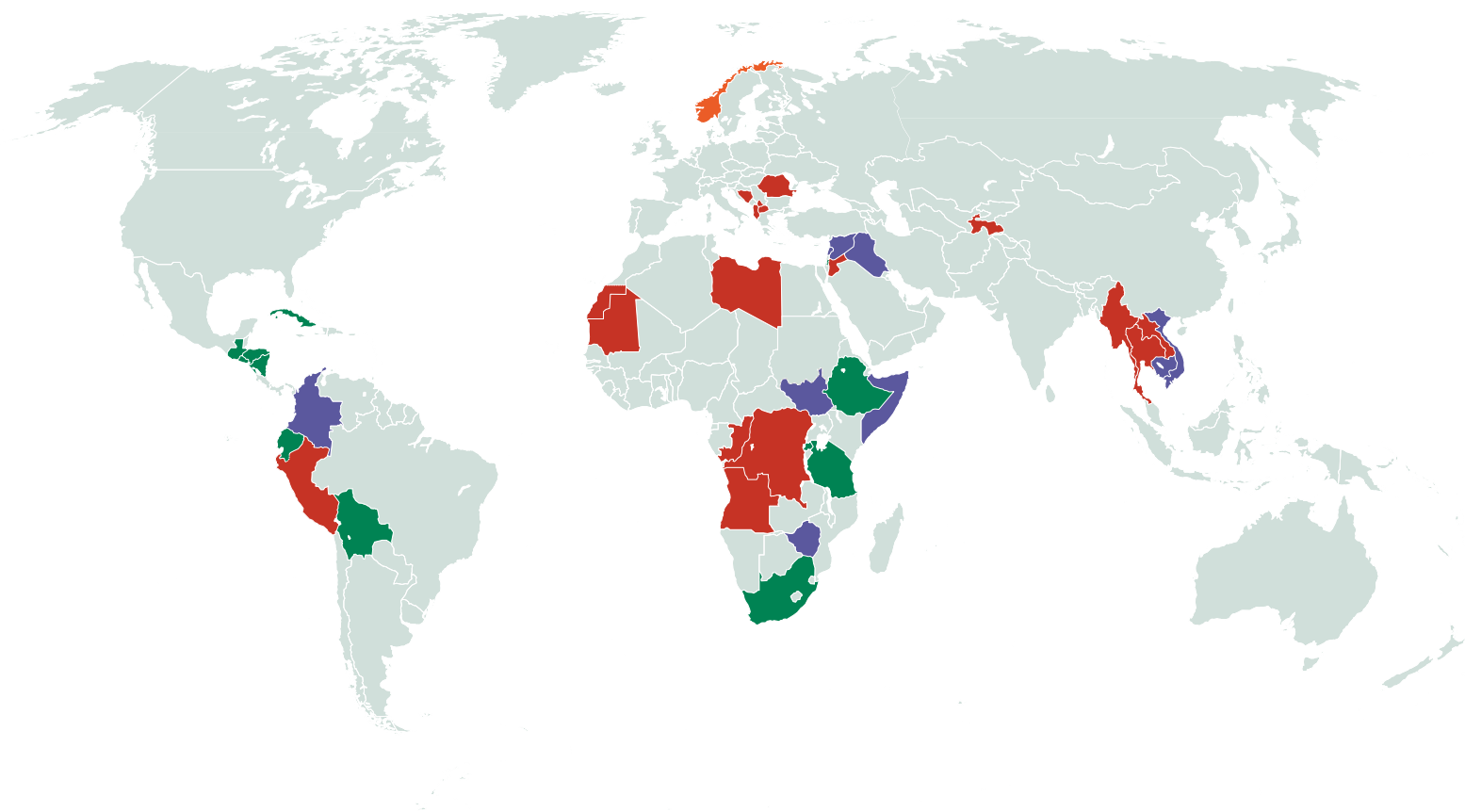
### The government changed its position

Together with other organisations, in the autumn of 2014, we managed to get the government to change its position on the issue of the concentration of Norwegian aid. The 2015 Revised National Budget now states as follows: "The government is of the opinion that the concentration should not put limitations on where Norway can contribute with humanitarian aid". In the hearings on the 2015 budget, the foreign affairs and defence committee gave its support for the government's proposal for a careful geographical concentration of Norwegian aid, ref. Recommendation 7 S (2014–2015). Meanwhile, the Parliament asked for an elaboration on the assumptions for the proposal. Furthermore, it was agreed that the concentration should not include Norwegian NGOs or humanitarian support.

### Humanitarian disarmament

See page 30 for the results of NPA's work with policy development in the field of humanitarian disarmament.

## Norwegian People's Aid around the world



### ● Rescue service/Asylum and integration

Norway

### ● Development and building democracy

Bolivia  
Cuba  
Ecuador  
El Salvador  
Ethiopia  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Nicaragua  
Palestine  
Rwanda  
South Africa  
Tanzania

### ● Landmines and weapons

Albania  
Angola  
Bosnia- Herzegovina  
Congo (DRC)  
Jordan  
The Republic of Congo  
Kosovo  
Laos  
Libya  
Mauretania  
Moldova  
Montenegro  
Peru  
Serbia  
Tajikistan  
Thailand  
Western Sahara

### ● Development/Mines

Colombia  
Iraq  
Cambodia  
Lebanon  
Myanmar  
Somalia  
Syria  
South Sudan  
Tajikistan  
Thailand  
Vietnam  
Zimbabwe



The red carpet. From the left, NPA Board Chairman Finn Erik Thoresen, HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit, HRH Crown Prince Haakon and the Secretary General of NPA Liv Tørres.



The Secretary General of Comandos de Salvamento, Roberto Cruz, congratulated NPA on its anniversary and thanked the organisation for a long and fruitful collaboration.



First Confederational Secretary of LO and board member of NPA, Peggy Hessen Følsvik, is proud of the relationship between the trade union movement and NPA.

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**On Friday 5 December 2014, NPA celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Royal guests, friends and partners attended celebrations at Oslo Congress Centre together with employee representatives and staff.**

HRH Crown Prince Haakon and HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit attended representing the royal family. HRH Crown Prince Haakon was NPA's patron during the 2011 TV campaign and is quite familiar with the organisation's work. When asked what the

crown prince thought of the celebration, he replied:

"It's excellent. Norwegian People's Aid does a remarkable job in many different areas, ranging from rescue services to demining and other types of international work. So it has been a good experience to attend the celebration of the first 75 years and I expect there will be many more years to come, because there's a great need out there, as was mentioned here. But it was very nice to be able to participate in the anniversary celebration."

Peggy Hessen Følsvik gave a speech on behalf of the trade union movement and she said that just as NPA is proud of its origins in the trade union movement, they are equally proud to be related to an organisation like NPA.

Representatives from NPA's long-time partner in El Salvador, Comandos de Salvamento, were the only official guests representing our partners abroad. In his speech, their General Secretary Roberto Cruz thanked NPA for 30 years of solidarity and cooperation.



## ANNIVERSARY BOOK

**On the occasion of the anniversary, NPA's 75-year history has been collected in book form.**

The book was entitled *People change the world* and was launched in November 2014 at Eldorado cinema in Oslo.

Among the distinguished guests were Foreign Minister Børge Brende.

"I am impressed with the work and commitment of Norwegian People's Aid. The entire organisation does important work, where volunteerism is combined with activity in the field and political involvement," said the Foreign Minister.

He also confirmed that the government will continue to cooperate with NPA to promote freedom of organisation and democracy in developing countries.

Terje Olsson from the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) expressed pride in the bond between NPA and the trade union movement.

"When I watch the news on TV about all terrible things in the world, I am proud to think that we are there to help," said Olsson.

The anniversary book was authored by journalist Thor Viksveen, who was interviewed by Arne Strand at the book release. The author confirmed that recording the story of such a wide-reaching organisation as NPA had been a big job, but stressed that the work had been enjoyable.

"It has been a pleasure to collaborate with the staff of this organisation. Their dedication to their work has impressed me," said Viksveen.



Foreign Minister Børge Brende attended the launch of the NPA's anniversary book.



In connection with the launch of the anniversary book, author Thor Viksveen was interviewed about NPA's diverse history by journalist Arne Strand.



Author Thor Viksveen signs a copy of the anniversary book for NPA Board Chairman Finn Erik Thoresen.









# REFUGEES AND INTEGRATION

Asylum seekers, refugees and ethnic minorities in Norway scores lowest on human development indices, face discrimination in many areas of society and lack many of the rights to which they should be entitled. This places them at the core of NPA's responsibility and commitment



All photos: Elvør Eriksen



## Working for a humane refugee policy

With over 25 years as the only major humanitarian actor operating reception centres for asylum-seekers, NPA has acquired unique expertise in working with refugees. In addition to running reception centres for asylum-seekers, we meet quota refugees on their arrival in Norway, and ensure that unaccompanied minors are assigned a representative or guardian.

NPA also runs advisory centre for au pairs and host families, holds courses and runs awareness-raising activities related to integration in the workplace and society. We are an organisation that takes a stand and we work through political channels to improve conditions for asylum-seekers, refugees and ethnic minorities.

### Reception centres for asylum-seekers

In 2014, NPA operated nine reception centres for asylum-seekers. As an operator, we are focused on ensuring that our residents have a safe and dignified stay, whatever the status of their case. We work to help the residents keep their lives as active as possible while staying in a reception centre.

During 2014, we conducted a thorough review of our reception operations, focusing on improved quality within current financial

frameworks. We aim to continue this work in 2015.

### Refugee Reception Service

During 2014, we provided assistance to quota refugees and family reunification refugees at Oslo Airport Gardermoen. Quota refugees arriving at Gardermoen and who will be continuing their journey on a domestic flight are greeted by NPA refugee assistants, who ensure that everything goes well during their layover. The largest proportion of refugees received by the Refugee Reception Service in 2014 came from Syria, but there were also many from Eritrea, Somalia and DR Congo.

### Guardian secretariat

On behalf of the County Governor, NPA continued its work training guardians and representatives for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, in addition to managing the allocation of assignments. A duty roster ensures that there are always competent adults available to safeguard children's rights at the National Police Immigration Service (NPIS) and the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI).

### Combating radicalisation

Combating radicalisation involves working against both right-wing extremism and Islamist extremism. This work was started in the second

half of 2014 with a survey of potential donor funding and an assessment of what NPA's role in this landscape should be. With regard to right extremism our work will revolve around ensuring that the issue remains on the political agenda and that it is prioritised as highly as the work against Islamist extremism. In 2014, a conference was planned on right-wing extremism in Norway and the Nordic region. The conference was held in April 2015 in cooperation with the Norwegian Centre against Racism Centre and International House Foundation.

The work against Islamist extremism focuses mainly on creating an open and inclusive society in order to counter exclusion among young people with minority backgrounds. In the autumn of 2014, NPA applied for and received a grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Integration for dialogue meetings in Østfold among young people from minority backgrounds. These dialogues will be held in the spring of 2015. In addition, we established a partnership with the crime-prevention division at the Stovner police station and initiated application processes that will finance the start of a collaborative forum for youth in Groruddalen.

### Au Pair Center

In cooperation with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General



Photo: Werner Anderson



**In 2014, the Au Pair Center received 800 enquiries. Of these, 63% were from au pairs and 30% were from host families.**

Employees, NPA operates the Au Pair Center/On Equal Terms – an information and advisory service for au pairs and host families. To ensure that au pairs are safeguarded to the greatest extent possible, it is important that both au pairs and host families have a place to turn to before, during and after a conflict. The main objectives of the centre are to safeguard the rights of au pairs in a satisfactory manner and to ensure that the au pair scheme is used for that which it is intended, namely cultural exchange. The centre offers courses that strengthen the cultural exchange aspect of the scheme, and also runs a café. NPA Youth for Solidarity Bislet and the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees Youth volunteer to work at the café.

The Au Pair Center has noticed that au pairs generally work too much and that host families do not report tax for

the au pair as they are required to by law.

Reaching out with information has been challenging, so we prepared a handbook for host families and au pairs. The intention is that more au pairs and host families should know what is expected of them, as well as their rights and responsibilities. This will prevent conflicts and make cooperation easier. When new pocket money rates were introduced on 1 October 2014, the centre received numerous enquiries from au pairs requesting that we or the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) send letter about the new rates to the host families, as many did not dare to address the issue themselves. For several reasons, of which the most important was that we do not have lists of host families in Norway, Au Pair Center drew up a letter and posted it on Facebook so that au pairs could

print it out and give a copy to their host families. The centre has received positive feedback from many au pairs about the letter to the host parents.

In 2014, the Au Pair Center received 800 enquiries. Of those who contacted the centre, 63 per cent were au pairs, 30 per cent were host families and 7 per cent were others. The number of enquiries is a marked increase from 2013. This is likely due to the fact that the centre has become better known in the au pair environment. In addition to counselling and guidance, the centre provides legal assistance when necessary for conflict resolution. Most cases are resolved by a legal adviser/employee at the centre. However, there are cases where the situation is acute or where tensions are so high between the parties that there is a need to bring in a lawyer.

#### **Most of the enquiries to the Au Pair Center relate to:**

- General information about the au pair scheme
- Immigration law, residence permits and visas
- Procedure for finding a new host family
- Holidays and holiday pay
- Employment law and dismissal
- Tax



Photo: Werner Anderson

## Undocumented – In My Shoes

The exhibition *In My Shoes* was produced in collaboration with photographer Ole Brodersen. It tells the stories of the daily lives of two individuals and one family living as undocumented immigrants in Norway. The exhibition opened at the Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology in the autumn of 2014 and a debate was held to mark the occasion, with several political parties on the panel. There were also readings from Simon Stranger's book *Those who do not exist*. The cooperation with the Museum of Science and Technology

was positive and the event attracted many visitors. In connection with the exhibition at museum, there are plans to implement an educational programme for lower secondary school students in collaboration with author Simon Stranger in the spring of 2015. The exhibition will travel to Bergen in the spring of 2015 and Trondheim in the autumn.

The project has helped to bring information about the situation of undocumented immigrants out into the public eye, and demonstrates the need for regularisation and work permits for this group.

## Refugee reception centres

During 2014, NPA negotiated two new contracts to operate reception centres for asylum-seekers and renewed agreements to operate reception centres. We were also awarded an operation agreement for the largest reception centre, which is a refugee transit centre with room for up to 800 people at Haslemoen in Våler in Hedmark. This demonstrates that NPA can still be competitive in a market that is subject to a public tendering system and is heavily influenced by commercial interests.

We held **11** human libraries. We ran **11** awareness-raising courses.  
Show racism the red card had **35** school visits.  
We achieved **15** new racism-free zones.

### Number of new racism-free zones in 2014:

**15** including major zones such as the municipality of Fredrikstad with over **70** units.



Number of followers of  
"Førdommer Førdummer  
(Prejudice campaign)"  
on Facebook:

Over **27,000**

### Number of residents in our reception centres:



averages around **1,600**  
(capacity 1,800 beds)

Around **1000** minors were provided with a representative. We have **85** active representatives on call. We trained **80** representatives for minors.





## DEMANDED A SOLUTION FOR HUNGRY ASYLUM-SEEKERS

**“Residents of the Jølster reception centre go to bed hungry. With less than NOK 2,000 a month for daily expenses, they just can’t make ends meet”, Jølster reception centre manager told to the press in 2014. NPA demanded that economic benefits be increased.**

Firda and NRK Sogn og Fjordane had several news stories and reports about the residents at Jølster reception centre, which is run by Norwegian People’s Aid. A doctor affiliated with the residents sent a medical memorandum to the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) explaining that two of the residents were suffered from malnourishment and should receive increased funding for food. A senior researcher at the Norwegian Institute for Consumer Research, Elling Borgeaas, also told NRK that “just under NOK 2,000 is not enough.”

The media coverage generated public engagement. While some showed up at the reception centre with food and financial aid for the residents, others filled the comments sections on websites with hate speech and statements such as: “Go home if you have it so bad.”

Asylum seekers lose a significant amount of economic support when they receive a final rejection of their asylum application. This puts the individual resident in a difficult financial situation, where NOK 1,960 needs to cover food, clothing, transportation, medical attention and medication. It also creates differences internally at the receptions. Residents who have received a final rejection often isolate themselves at the reception centre because they cannot afford to go out.

The managers at NPA’s reception centres around the country report that this group seems to be particularly vulnerable to mental illness.

The idea that these rates must be kept low to force residents out of the country, and saying that “they can just leave” is a simplification of reality. Asylum seekers who have had their applications rejected are a diverse group. Some tell of gross persecution and fear of further abuse upon their

return to their home country. Some fear the shame that comes with being a victim of abuse; this is especially true of women who have been raped. Others fear that they or their family may become a victim of random bombings and arbitrary affected by hostilities because of the general security situation in their homeland. That these people have been denied asylum because the Norwegian authorities do not consider them to be at risk of new persecution, does not alter the severity of the background and experience many asylum-seekers have. It is also clear that among these so-called paperless people, there are also a number of people who have been rejected even though they are considered to be in need of protection by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

Whatever the reason people have been displaced and cannot return to their home country, they should be treated with dignity.

NPA believes that asylum-seekers should be given equal living conditions as regular citizens receiving social benefits and that all residents should receive an equal amount, regardless of their status in the asylum case.



Our Refugee Reception Service assisted **1,113** quota refugees and **539** family reunification refugees.

# DEVELOPMENT

NPA encourages broad mobilisation for an equitable distribution of power and resources and believes that Norway must pursue a development policy that promotes an equitable distribution.



All photos: Liv Tønnes



Photos: Henrik Stabel

## Democratisation and equitable distribution of power and resources

Mobilisation for just distribution and democracy must come from the people. Through the organisation of regular people rather than just the elite, collective bargaining, transparency and access to independent information, we can find solutions on how power and resources should be distributed. Only thus can we combat the major differences we see emerging worldwide.

### People can make a difference

When the people organise themselves, they can influence policy. We see this in many countries; in Mozambique and Cambodia, farmers organised negotiations with businesses and the authorities to enforce their right to use the land. In Iraq, a new law was proposed in the Kurdish parliament after the people mobilised and lobbied to set aside oil revenues to benefit future generations. In Zimbabwe, miners and organisations representing owners of small businesses in

the informal economy made alliances and organised campaigns. Finally, the Zimbabwean government is gradually beginning to acknowledge their demands and is decriminalising certain activities. In Bolivia, women mobilised and managed to get more women involved in politics.

### Collective campaigns

NPA supports people who organise and participate in collective campaigns and processes to achieve democracy and the equal distribution of power and resources. We work with organisations representing these people, such as membership-based organisations or other actors who work for and with underrepresented groups and communities.

### Inequality Watch II

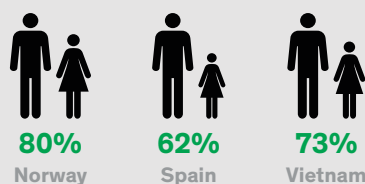
In 2014, we worked on the sequel to *Inequality Watch*, which NPA published in 2012 as a contribution to the debate on development policy.

Inequality Watch pointed out that it is too restrictive to limit development policy goals to economic growth or to getting a population over an artificial poverty line. What is necessary is a clear prioritisation of the distribution of both power and resources.

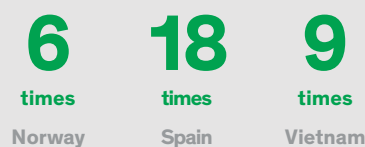
When Thomas Piketty visited Norway in December 2014 in connection with the launch of the Norwegian translation of his book *Capital in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*, he was presented with a copy of Inequality Watch I.

Inequality Watch II, which was released in March 2015, points to the growing concentration of wealth and economic power and that this can have the effect of subverting democracy. In the report, we ask what has

#### Womens earnings compared to men:



The 10% richest earn so many times more than the 10% poorest:



#### Unemployment among youth:



#### Gross domestic product:





Photo: Rosina Yzaenga



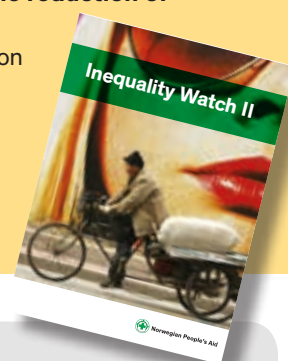
Photo: Henrik Stabell



worked to reduce inequality, and we look at the experiences of Ecuador and Norway. Furthermore, we ask questions about the role inequality has played in the extensive protest movements in Egypt, Tunisia and Spain. The report also addresses inequality in Vietnam and the role of a nascent civil society.

#### **In Inequality Watch II, NPA proposes a platform for the reduction of inequality, with five calls to action:**

1. Strengthen organisations that challenge the concentration of power and resources
2. Promote collectively negotiated solutions
3. Prioritise the reduction of inequality
4. Facilitate transparency
5. Share analyses and information on inequality



## **POLITICAL COOPERATION with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees**

In 2014, we also worked on following up the report *Dangerous liaisons – Norwegian ties to the Israeli occupation*. Through our political partnership with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees, NPA aims to reduce economic, institutional and organisational ties between Norway and the occupation. Key aspects of this partnership include campaigning and advocacy work.

An important objective in 2014 was to strengthen the campaign against SodaStream and 8–14 September, we organised a nationwide campaign to persuade Norwegian companies to stop selling SodaStream machines. As part of the campaign week, the Palestinian rappers DAM came to Oslo to play at the club *Blå* in Oslo.

Altogether, 23 organisations, parties and unions support the campaign demanding that the company pull out of the West Bank, and that retailers should stop selling SodaStream machines until this happens. The campaign week led to a number of media reports in the local and national media. In advance of the campaign, we arranged a day of information and education in Oslo for people who wanted to be local resource persons for the campaign. This helped to build expertise and secure local commitment for the campaign.

Before the campaign, there was a lot of noise in the media about SodaStream, especially because the actress Scarlett Johansson had a commitment to the English relief

organisation Oxfam at the same time as she was the global brand ambassador for SodaStream. Oxfam's campaign against the occupation asked the American actor to choose between them or SodaStream. Johansson chose SodaStream, which probably also gave the campaign here in Norway a certain momentum.

In late October, SodaStream announced that they will be closing their factory in the Mishor Adumim settlement by 2015. If the company actually goes through with this promise, it will mean a complete victory for the campaign.

The campaign will continue until the company has actually ended its production activities on occupied territory.



Photo: Øystein Sassebo Bryhni



**Dalia Terceros from Bartolina Sisa speaking at a public meeting on the referendum for a new constitution in Bolivia.**

## MORE WOMEN IN POLITICS IN BOLIVIA

**The number of women in parliament in Bolivia has increased from 29 per cent in the period 2010–2014 to 48 per cent for the period 2015–2019.**

Bolivia is a country with great economic and social inequality and discrimination that particularly affect the indigenous people, who are the majority of the population. Women's rights have been weak and indigenous women are particularly vulnerable.

Our partner Bartolina Sisa was central to efforts to implement the law that says that every second candidate standing for election should be a woman and that women should constitute 50 per cent of all representatives in political governing bodies.

This cooperation is particularly related to organisational development, with special emphasis on leadership development and political education for women, to strengthen their ability to participate in political work and stand as candidates in elections.

In the period 2012–2014, a total of 723 women participated in courses funded by NPA, 227 of which were from Bartolina Sisa.

The election in November 2014 was a victory for Evo Morales, who received 61 per cent of the vote and a two-thirds majority in parliament. It was also a historic victory for women. Women now account for 48 per cent of the Bolivian Parliament, as opposed to 29 per cent in the previous period. That 30 out of the 80 elected women are from Bartolina Sisa, demonstrates the importance of their work.

**Humanitarian emergency relief:**

**NOK 100 million**

**Number of programme countries:**

**24**

**Number of partners:**

**380**

## PHASED OUT OF CHILE

**NPA has supported social organisations in Chile since 1985. In recent years, the programme has been gradually scaled down and 2014 was the final year.**

Identidad Territorial Lafkenche (ITL), which represents and organises the indigenous Mapuche-Lafkenche people along a coastline of over 1,000 km in the south of Chile, has been our only partner since 2012. They are fighting for their traditional rights to use of the ocean and coastline to safeguard their livelihoods and their cultural and spiritual traditions.

In 2008, a law that secures the Mapuche-Lafkenche people rights was adopted but implementation was delayed by the previous government.

**290**

million to  
long-term development partnerships

In 2014, ITL initiated a dialogue with the new government to implement the law. They came to agreement on some key points and will continue negotiations in 2015.

The cooperation between NPA and ITL has focused on strengthening ITL's organisational structures and work. The focus in recent years has been to ensure that the phasing out of NPA's assistance would have as few negative consequences as possible for what the organisation had already achieved and to identify initiatives that ITL can continue on their own.

One of the steps in this process was to build a special house for the organisation with support from both NPA and the villages organised under ITL. The house has offices, meeting rooms and eight bedrooms for visiting leaders who need to perform administrative tasks or attend meetings. There is also a small shop selling arts and crafts articles. ITL also receives income from renting out their meeting rooms to other organisations.

## BRINGING THE RIGHTS OF VIETNAM'S MINORITIES INTO LAND LEGISLATION

### **Ethnic minorities in Vietnam reinforced their rights of ownership of forests.**

Changes to land legislation in Vietnam have been in process since before 2010 and the rights of minorities to their traditional lands has been one of the focus areas.

NPA partner SPERI (Social Policy Ecology Research Institute) is working to strengthen the dialogue between the authorities and ethnic minorities to secure small farmers access to forest land.

A number of key principles are included in the new law: The religious significance of lands has been recognised, the responsibilities of the

authorities with regard to adopting settlement and agricultural policies in accordance with the traditional customs and practices of ethnic minorities have been defined and the rights of local communities with regard to protection of forest areas have been clarified.

Through the process, the rights of ethnic minorities to forest areas have been recognised. The delimitation and purchase of forest land carried out by local governments, indigenous peoples and SPERI have had the following results:

- 2063 hectares of forest have been allocated to indigenous communities
- 274 land disputes have been resolved
- A guide for the allocation of forest areas based on the co-determination of local communities has been developed.
- Forest mapping, land surveys, demarcation, land use planning and conflict resolution have become institutionalised in the provinces of Lao Cai and Nghe An.



Photo: Tor Henrik Andersen

Vietnam's new land legislation recognises the land rights of ethnic minorities. The organisation SPERI, one of NPA's partners in Vietnam, has been central to the process of achieving these and other important changes to the law.



**In 2014, much of NPA's long-term work had to be reorganised due to humanitarian crises.**

### **SOUTH SUDAN**

Extensive unrest erupted in South Sudan in December 2013 and led to NPA scaling up our humanitarian efforts in the country. South Sudan became one of the world's three biggest humanitarian crises in 2014.

### **PALESTINE**

The national programme in Palestine was hit hard by Israel's extensive bombing in the summer of 2014. Much of our operations in Gaza were converted to relief work and humanitarian efforts were increased.





## IRAQ

In Iraq, most of our long-term efforts were put on ice and the programme concentrated on providing humanitarian aid after ISIL took over large parts of Iraq and created an enormous refugee disaster.

## THE BALKANS

Severe rainfall during May 2014 resulted in the worst flooding in 120 years and caused major destruction in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. NPA's mine clearers responded quickly to the humanitarian crisis that arose and provided assistance to the authorities and local communities.

## SYRIA

What began as a peaceful, democratic uprising in Syria in 2011 has evolved into a protracted war and led to the greatest humanitarian disaster the world has seen since World War II. To date, 4 million Syrians have been displaced from their homeland, and 7.6 million have been forced to leave their homes and are living as refugees in their own country.



Photo: Henrik Stabell

Photo: Norwegian People's Aid



Preparing relief packages in Iraq.

**Solidarity also includes responding to crisis situations. NPA assists with emergency relief in countries where we already have relevant partners.**

We are focused on ensuring that our response responds to real needs in affected areas without undermining local efforts. As a rule, local actors are fast and flexible and better able to determine the immediate needs of those affected. In 2014, we assisted with humanitarian relief in **Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine** and **Myanmar**.

### Somalia

The areas where NPA is working are in dispute. However, through knowledge of the local community and a close dialogue with local partners and leaders, we are able to get relief to people in hard to reach areas. Our support is channelled exclusively through partners and the approach tailored to meet relevant local needs.

- Assistance to water programmes through two partners. 82,419 direct recipients in 68 villages.
- Assistance to women's and youth programmes through four partners. 1,050 households are recipients and about 500 young people.

### Lebanon

In 2014, the Lebanon office sought to assist Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. The country is at breaking point with 1.2 million refugees from Syria, and NPA and its partners assisted refugees who sought refuge in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

- Equipment and food distribution in Lebanon and Syria to Palestinian and Syrian refugees.
- Number of recipients in Lebanon was 2,661 and the number of recipients in Syria was 5,037.

### Iraq

ISIL's advance in northern Iraq in 2014 resulted in the terrorist organisation eventually gaining control over both the city of Mosul and large areas both along the border with Syria and in central Iraq. The attacks had a particularly strong impact on ethnic and religious minorities, with the Yazidis most affected. NPA had to reorganise our long-term programme into emergency relief and we have assisted internally displaced people in the Kurdistan region, Kirkuk and southern Iraq with food, clothing and equipment. We work with Iraqi organisations that have a safe foothold in the Iraqi and Kurdish communities and are able to provide assistance in a very complex political situation.

- Food aid, clothing and equipment to Kurdish areas in Iraq through local partners. Recipients amounted to a total of 20,923 families and 2,913 individuals.
- Equipment, clothing and financial support for Sinjar Mountain, 6 "counties" in Iraqi Kurdistan and 15 in Iraq. Total recipients amounted to 11,750 families and 10,662 individuals.

Photo: Liv Tørres



Distribution of relief packages in South Sudan.



## Palestine

2014 was a disaster year for Palestinians in Gaza. The war from 8 July to 25 August, laid much of Gaza in ruins and more than 2,200 people were killed. NPA restructured its humanitarian programme to be able to respond to the war and provide assistance to the many people who were directly affected by the hostilities. Meanwhile, we continued to provide humanitarian support to both the rehabilitation of livelihoods and adaptation of education for the children affected by the war.

- Agricultural equipment and inputs through partners. Equipment: the number of recipients was 9,982 individuals and 1,709 households.
- Agricultural inputs: the number of recipients was 10,147 individuals and 1,585 households.
- Adapting education and rehabilitation in war zones through partners. The number of recipients was 10,199 individuals and 1,934 households.
- Adapting education and support for children and students through partners in the transition from 2013 to 2014. the number of recipients was 4,256 individuals.
- Food and agriculture support. The number of recipients was 2,272 households and 11,449 individuals

## Myanmar

NPA has been in Myanmar since 2004. We support various organisations in an emerging civil society. After a beginning marked by strong governmental restrictions on support for political processes, the situation has now changed somewhat. The Nargis cyclone contributed greatly to opening opportunities. NPA now supports projects within democratisation, human rights and natural resource management. We also contribute in the peace process between the government and ethnic militant groups.

- Peace initiatives through 19 partners. 10,000 direct recipients.
- Humanitarian action through 6 partners. 5,000 direct recipients.

## Syria

NPA works primarily in rebel-controlled areas of northern Syria, focusing on Aleppo and Hasakah, but also provides some relief in Idlib, Hama and the Damascus district. We have been working in this area since 2012, but it is not safe enough for international organisations to have a presence, so our office is in neighbouring Turkey. We cooperate with Syrian organisations who have a good understanding of conditions on the ground. Local knowledge is essential to be able to provide relief in areas that are constantly under attack and where the political situation is complex.

- Food programme through local partners. A total of 59,090 recipients.
- Distribution of food and equipment through local partners. The numbers are: 9,900 ready-to-eat meals, 3,652 blankets, 500 pillows, 1600 quilts, 150 cases of baby food delivered in "no man's land" in connection with the Kobane crisis.
- Training of 90 emergency relief assistants.

## South Sudan

Conditions in South Sudan are extremely difficult. The climate, landscape, lack of infrastructure and the complex conflict make it difficult and perilous to conduct emergency relief operations. NPA has been working under these conditions since 1986 and we know them well. We plan to continue to help the people of South Sudan. In addition to emergency relief, we also have several other projects that aim to help to counteract conflict drivers in the longer term and better equip the South Sudanese community to cope with disasters. These projects include long-term agricultural development, civil society, mine clearance, proper weapons handling and better healthcare.

- Food programme directed by NPA. There are 320,795 people direct recipients of 8,315 tonnes of food.
- Specific support for equipment to distressed households. 13,700 households are recipients.



Photo: Norwegian People's Aid

Distribution of emergency relief in Shikhan in Iraq.



# RESCUE SERVICE AND FIRST AID

NPA Preparedness and Rescue Services is working to create safety in communities across the country. Our basic idea is to show solidarity in practice through clear attitudes and concrete actions.



Photo: Ellen Johanne Jarl

Photo: Norwegian People's Aid

## ● Saving lives every day

In 2014, NPA Preparedness and Rescue Services was called out on 316 operations, an increase of 50 per cent compared to the previous year. Hopefully this does not mean that more people get lost, but rather that resources are being mobilised earlier. In matters of life and death, every minute counts and that is precisely why it is encouraging to see that our crews are being notified more often.

More operations also means more challenges. Some groups have been called out several times a week and even the most committed crews can have a hard time gathering enough people every time. Thus, it is even more important to invest in recruitment and training to strengthen our numbers.

Systematic search methods are important and, in 2014, a big step was taken in the right direction when national guidelines were adopted for searching for missing persons on land. Together with the other organisations under the umbrella organisation for the volunteer rescue services in Norway Frivillige Organisasjoner Redningsfaglige Forum (FORF), NPA have put considerable efforts that will help save lives.

### **Improved quality of training**

As a prehospital resource, we must sometimes spend hours with sick or injured victims in the mountains. We are often first on the scene when some-

thing happens at sporting or cultural events. We must be able to offer good first aid training to our crews, and therefore it is gratifying that, in 2014, we were able to introduce a revised training plan for qualified first-aid. The content of the new plan is entirely up to date and organised to make it easy for instructors to teach. NPA will continue to revise our training plans in 2015.

In addition to developing training plans, NPA works continuously with professional development, and in 2014, we published guidelines for rescuing people with dementia.

### **New national public safety network**

In 2014, the new network, called Nødnett, was fully implemented in eastern Norway. In parallel, considerable efforts have been made to prepare for a rollout in the rest of the country. We have trained a local instructor for Nødnett in each of our local chapters. In addition, we have trained six main instructors who in turn can educate local instructors. In 2015, we are working with the deployment of the network in the rest of the country and training instructors at all levels.

### **Contact with the national authorities**

NPA Preparedness and Rescue Services is responsible for most of their contact with the national authorities through

our representation on the board of FORF. FORF has annual meetings with the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and relevant agencies such as the Directorate of Health, the National Police Directorate, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB) and the Emergency Communications Directorate. We also have our own contacts where necessary.

Regionally, we are represented in the collective rescue leadership at various Local Rescue Services (LRS) and preparedness committees in counties and municipalities depending on local traditions. We also regularly attends district councils for the Norwegian Home Guard.

While politicians come and go, NGOs and most government bureaucrats endure.

FORF has been in regular contact with the political leadership of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, regardless of who is in power. NPA has exerted influence where we can, and it has paid off in increased total allocations to FORF organisations.

Still, government funding to FORF is by no means excessive, so we are still working to have politicians to increase funding. Among other things, we are working to receive coverage for lost earnings and to remove taxes on rescue equipment and vehicles.



Photo: Eivor Eriksen

## Recruitment and new teams

Continuous recruitment is important for an organisation to continue to evolve. Through our focus on a training culture, we also create an organisation where it is attractive to be a member. Members receive offers to participate in targeted activities and are given opportunities to contribute.

NPA is and aims to continue to be a national resource for the Norwegian Rescue Services. To that end, we are working to establish new first aid and rescue groups around the country. At the same time, we must ensure that existing teams continue their work, and some teams need to be revitalised.

In 2014, the south-west region received a new health and rescue team when Norwegian People's Aid Vennesla was founded. In the northern region, a new team was established in Hasvik.

## Mountain safety and avalanches

Thanks to the support of the Norwegian Extra Foundation for Health and Rehabilitation, NPA had the opportunity to extend two projects in 2014. The first is a mountain safety course for youth that aims to give young people the skills and knowledge to enjoy modern outdoor recreation safely and thoughtfully. The second project is an avalanche project, where we published a pamphlet about avalanches and avalanche rescue efforts.

The pamphlet provides an introduction to assessing avalanche risk, snowpack, terrain and steepness. It also addresses rescue efforts following an avalanche.

## NPA Youth Preparedness and Rescue Services

NPA Preparedness and Rescue Services has 29 active youth groups. An important goal is to provide young people with active and meaningful pursuits. Through participation in camps and drills throughout the year, our future health and rescue crews get to have positive experiences out in nature and the opportunity to test their own limits within a secure framework.

Many of the young people who attended the 2014 summer camp participated in a mountain safety course, which included map and compass skills, as well as proper clothing in the mountains. Participants also had the opportunity to try to cross a river using ropes. First aid is also part of the course.

Interaction with our adult preparedness and rescue groups is important, and youth members learn a lot from attending their training exercises. The young people are assigned different tasks during the course and training activities, such as being a marker. Being a marker requires a lot of first-aid knowledge, which makes it a popular activity.

In 2014, we also arranged a gathering for adults with responsibility for NPA Youth Preparedness and Rescue groups. The aim was to inspire one another to greater commitment to youth work, learn from each other and benefit from the experiences of teams that have had good results in attracting new members.

## NPA Preparedness and Rescue Services

- Provides around the clock emergency response services.
- Has first aid and rescue equipment that can be used for all types of rescue missions.
- Participates in searches for missing people, avalanche accidents, natural disasters, assists accident victims off main roads and in major accidents.
- Can assist with evacuations and support activities at meeting places.
- Conducts accident prevention work by promoting water and mountaineering common sense.
- Provides first aid training to businesses and schools.
- Provides young people with active and meaningful recreational activities.

**316 campaigns** in 2014, an increase of **50%** from the previous year.  
**10,000 course hours** internally and externally. **29** active youth groups.  
**60** operative health and rescue groups.

## First aid and rescue services

Photo: Norwegian People's Aid



Kjersti E. R. Jenssen was presented the award by the Chairman of the Board Finn Erik Thoresen.

Photo: Norwegian People's Aid



Ole Skår of NPA Strand and Forsand received the Årets Folkehjelper Award on behalf of the local chapter.

## "ÅRETS FOLKEHJELPER" 2014

Norwegian People's Aid has given the award "Årets Folkehjelper" since 1992. The aim of the award is to honour a person who has been strongly committed to issues within the framework of NPA's goal of a society of solidarity, nationally and internationally. In 2014, the award was shared between Kjersti E. R. Jenssen and the local chapter Strand and Forsand.

NPA Strand and Forsand is a light-house among our local chapters. The local chapter has around 950 members, making it the second largest chapter of Norwegian People's Aid. In 2014, Strand and Forsand celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Their primary focus has been emergency response throughout these fifty years, and many people have been saved, helped, supported, transported by snowmobile or boat, or found in the mountains. Unfortunately, there have also been a number of operations where the outcome was fatal, but then at least relatives have a grave to visit and the community receives answers to unresolved questions.

Kjersti E. R. Jenssen is currently the First Deputy Chairman of NPA. She started working with NPA in 1979 and has since held countless positions, in addition to having been employed at our head office for three years. She is an outstanding example of a great People's Aider with excellent organisational skills. She is an enterprising leader and knows the organisation from the ground up through her long

service in NPA. She is also an expert on regulations. With her determined and targeted work over so many years,

she is a worthy winner of Årets Folkehjelper in our anniversary year of 2014.

### Past winners of the award "Årets Folkehjelper" are:

2014	Kjersti E. R. Jensen
2014	Norwegian People's Aid Strand Forsand
2011	Bjørn Harald Kleppe
2011	Norwegian People's Aid Hadeland
2006	Norwegian People's Aid Årdal
2005	Tove Smaadal
2004	SOSIT (Study and solidarity project in Telemark)
2003	Jacob Reinfjell
2002	Norwegian People's Aid Oslo
2001	Nils Arne Hesthag
2000	Holmlia Elementary School
1999	Joint action against Racism
1998	Norwegian People's Aid Sør Varanger
1997	Arild Stokken
1996	Ester Kostøl
1995	Kirsti Kolle Grøndal
1994	Liv Rosmer Fisknes
1993	Thorvald Stoltenberg
1992	Erling Borgen





NPA contributed with boats, crews and underwater cameras during the search for Agnes Elisabeth Müller in Lysefjord. To the left is Eric Johansson from NPA Strand and Forsand. In the picture to the right is boat captain Thor Egil Siem along with crews from the South Rogaland Fire Service.

## VIDEO FOOTAGE HANDED OVER TO POLICE

**NPA Strand and Forsand made findings with their underwater camera when they were assisting the police in their search for missing Agnes Elisabeth Müller in Rogaland in 2014. The case was one of the most prominent murder cases of the year.**

Five crews from NPA participated in the search in Lysefjord. They used two underwater cameras to conduct the search when they discovered an interesting object. The police were immediately notified of the discovery.

NPA Strand and Forsand participated in the search for the missing woman for ten days. During this period between 2 and 20 active crews participated in the search. For two of the days, crews from NPA Gjesdal,

Jæren, Sandnes and Stavanger also participated in the search. NPA contributed in total with nearly 35 crew members to the search effort.

## SUPPORT FOR RESCUE SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE 75-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**During the LO Stat Cartel Conference in Gol in 2014, the NPA's Secretary General Liv Tørres received a check in the amount of NOK 50,000 from the leader of LO Stat Tone Rønoldtangen.**

This anniversary gift went to NPA's work with first aid and rescue services in Norway.

"We really appreciate this gift. It will be used for our national rescue and

first aid service. Although our volunteers are not paid for their efforts, they need courses, equipment and follow-up. So this money will be put to good use," said Tørres when she received the gift.

### A slight decline in drowning figures for 2014

**115 people drowned in 2014. That was 27 per cent fewer than the previous year.**

Nordland, Hordaland and Vestfold had ten or more drownings. Oppland did better with only one drowning accident last year.

Of the fatalities in 2014, 100 were men and 15 were women.

# HUMANITARIAN DISARMAMENT

NPA's humanitarian disarmament programme is a holistic approach to weapons-related threats and the humanitarian consequences of armed violence.



## ● A holistic approach

NPA possesses a unique expertise, acquired through over 20 years of mine and explosive clearance and political advocacy work aimed at banning landmines and cluster munitions.

However, mines and cluster munitions are just some of the weapons-related threats facing the world. Toxic waste generated by wars, explosive weapons in populated areas, unsecured munitions sites and nuclear weapons are serious threats to human life and health – and to the environment. In NPA, we use our expertise to work with the consequences of armed violence.

### Our core focus areas

We have identified the following areas where we can employ our expertise to help make the world a safer place:

- Mines and explosive remnants of war
- Explosive weapons in populated areas
- Dangerous and unsecure weapons and ammunition storage sites
- Surplus weapons and ammunition
- Toxic remnants of war
- Nuclear weapons

### Advocacy work

In 2014, NPA promoted its humanitarian disarmament strategy to other mine clearance agencies, donors and other stakeholders. We also completed our work on a comprehensive weapons

policy, which was published in January 2015. The policy provides an overview of the types of weapons on which NPA has specific viewpoints and forms the platform for our advocacy work in this area.

Also in 2014, NPA actively participated in the international boards of the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW), the Toxic Remnants of War Network (TRWN) and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

We continued our efforts to promote and shape an agenda around the major humanitarian problems from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas, mainly in terms of developing an entirely new concept for preparedness and protection of civilians during conflicts. This led to the initiation of pilot projects in 2015.

We conducted a preliminary survey of cross-contamination from depleted uranium and landmines/cluster munitions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The knowledge gained from this field work will support and inform NPA's policy development and advocacy work in the field of toxic war remnants.

### Monitoring progress

In 2014, NPA continued its active participation on the board of the Inter-

national Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC). However, we decided to leave the editorial committee of the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor and establish an independent project for international monitoring of the implementation of mine clearing commitments in the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. This work included the production of the report *Clearing the Mines*, which was presented at the Mine Ban Treaty conference in Maputo in 2014, and the continued development of the online tool for creating visualisations of the progress of the implementation of mine clearing obligations.

Our humanitarian disarmament department also contributed to making NPA a knowledgeable player in the international effort to ban nuclear weapons.

### Results in 2014

In 2014, an estimated 28 square kilometres of land were released following surveys or clearance operations in a total of 18 countries. In addition, more than 210 square kilometres were mapped through the effective mapping method for cluster munitions developed by NPA. In total, 62,000 mines, cluster munitions and other explosives were found and destroyed. NPA estimates that at least 50,000 people were direct recipients/users of





Photo: Werner Anderson



Photo: Norwegian People's Aid



Photo: Øystein Sassebo Bryhni



released land, while an estimated 500,000 are considered to be indirect recipients after the risk to their local community was eliminated. NPA uses its position as a major international humanitarian disarmament organisa-

tion to promote more effective methods both to countries and to other mine clearing operators, and is in close dialogue with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the aim of pursuing common goals.

### Highlights of 2014

- Publication of Clearing the Mines, a reference document for the entire sector.
- Improved reporting procedures, now electronic, daily and real-time.
- Capacity building by national authorities in all countries under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' framework agreement.
- NPA's method for mapping cluster bombs, developed in Southeast Asia, has now become the international standard.



Photo: Norwegian People's Aid



NPA completed its demining work in Mozambique in 2006, after working in the country since 1993. In 2012, we were asked to start up again to help the country achieve its commitments to be mine-free.





Assisting nations in securing dangerous weapons storage is one of NPA's priorities with regard to humanitarian disarmament.

## SECURING THE POWER SUPPLY IN SOUTH SUDAN

**The NPA humanitarian disarmament programme is clearing the way for renewable energy in South Sudan.**

In 2014, NPA completed mine clearance operations along the 150 km power line corridor from Fula Rapids to Juba. This corridor was financed by NORFUND.

The project began in February 2013 and concluded with a formal handover ceremony attended by South Sudan's Minister of Electricity and Dams and the Commissioner of National Mine Action Authority (NMAA) together with other stakeholders on May 7, 2014.

During the handover ceremony, the Minister complimented NPA for a job well done, which will allow for the construction of the electricity power station that will eventually supply the whole of South Sudan in the future.

"Electricity is very important for the socio-economic development of our country and the poor infrastructure we have is the legacy of the previous regime. Although there is now a crisis in the country, we attach great importance to development and wish to thank our partners for their assistance with this situation," said the minister.

## HANDED OVER MUNITIONS SITES TO THE AUTHORITIES

**NPA has registered and handed over three munitions sites to the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).**

The goal has been to minimise the risk of accidental explosions by ensuring compliance with international ammunition storage guidelines. Previously, the way the ammunition was stored entailed a great risk of self-ignition during the dry season.

The handover of the munitions sites took place in December 2014 in the southern town of Yei. Several high-ranking SPLA officers participated. NPA was represented by Damir Jaksic, Batali Gabriel Modi and Sam Onyango.

The project started with the construction of three warehouses. Then came the process of sorting and separating

ammunition. NPA enjoys considerable trust from the SPLA and Gabriel told that 95 per cent of NPA's demining employees in South Sudan are former soldiers from the SPLA engineer corps. He said that the soldiers are well trained in humanitarian demining, ammunition handling, disposal and managing munitions stores during humanitarian operations.

Major Mou Mou Arol thanked NPA for our work. He said that the ammunition had previously been stored in poor, grass-covered huts, mixed, unsecured and exposed both to the elements and to people. There was a great risk of the ammunition igniting during the dry season and this posed a great danger both to civilians and to soldiers.

The main objective of this project was to minimise the risks for unplanned explosions at munitions sites by implementing the principles of IATG (International Ammunition Technical Guidelines). The project is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.





NPA assists in efforts to fill sandbags to build sand embankments against the flood.

## RAPID RESPONSE AGAINST FLOODS

**NPA responded rapidly to the humanitarian crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.**

Enormous rains during May 2014 caused devastating floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia – the worst in 120 years.

Norwegian Peoples Aid responded rapidly to the humanitarian crisis caused by the floods. NPA immediately supported the Mine Action Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia with teams for surveying flooded mine-fields, replacing damaged markings and informing local populations of the potential risks, as well as conducting interventions to remove explosive remnants and mines that were found in flooded areas.

Parallel to this work, NPA established coordination with crisis headquarters in affected municipalities in northern

Bosnia in order to more effectively contribute to the humanitarian aid going to the areas, and help with the sanitation of terrains for the municipalities of Samac, Orašje, Domajevac Samac and Brčko District. On the first day of their response on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 22 NPA mine clearers built a new wall to contain the flooding of the Sava river in the city of Orašje.

Two NPA medical teams with ambulance vehicles worked on the evacuation of civilians from flooded areas and provided medical support to local population. The following day NPA responded with teams to distribute food and drinking water to affected households in Orašje and to collect water samples for analysis.



Photo: Lisa Åserud/NTB Scampix

## ROYAL VISIT TO NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID VIETNAM

**In 2014, the Norwegian Crown Prince and Princess visited NPA's programme for humanitarian disarmament in Vietnam.**

Last year, the programme in Vietnam secured 33 football pitches, making them safe for children and young people to play without fear that they will be stepping on a cluster bomb. Money from the 2011 telethon was used to carry out the work. On their visit to NPA, HRH Crown Prince Haakon and HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit saw one of the football fields that had been cleared of explosives.

"The Crown Prince and Princess showed great interest for NPA's efforts to remove cluster bombs and explosive in Vietnam. They were impressed with the results we had achieved with funds from the telethon since the Crown Prince was the patron," says Jonathon Guthrie, Country Director in Vietnam.

The delegation also had the opportunity to experience a controlled explosion.

# DEMOCRACY AND CAMPAIGNS

Democracy does not happen by itself – it must be championed. NPA was founded on a grassroots mobilisation and solidarity nationally and internationally. Voluntary commitment and grassroots mobilisation force the authorities to be accountable, which is one of the most important tools in our pursuit of a more just world.



All photos: Norwegian People's Aid

## Norwegian People's Aid – an open and inclusive organisation

An annual agreement with the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) gives Norwegian People's Aid NOK 350,000–400,000 for local integration initiatives. In recent years, 12 to 13 local chapters received funding through this agreement.

In August 2014, IMDi announced an additional allocation earmarked for initiatives aimed at getting more immigrant women into the workforce. NPA's Campaign and Democracy unit applied for and received NOK 100,000 from this grant.

We hired a freelance journalist to create the report *Dare you hire me?* The report included relevant interviews with a number of affected women, employers, the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) and others. The report was launched at two well-attended half-day conferences in Oslo and Bergen in November/December with contributions from immigrant women, the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO), LO, politicians

and volunteers. The report led to a question from the Labour Party in parliament about what the government plans to do to increase efforts in this area. The report formed a good basis for further action by NPA in 2015.

### NPA Youth for Solidarity

NPA Youth for Solidarity has had a very active year, with both the board and the local chapters working hard. Their annual report shows that a number of local chapters/groups run an average of one to two activities per week throughout the year and we have set records in both the number of published opinion pieces, frequent contact with partners, campaign work and number of participants at the Solidarity Conference.

True to tradition, there was a Solidarity Summer Tour to political youth party summer camps and trade union summer conferences, where NPA Youth for Solidarity had a stand, gave speeches, held workshops and enlisted members.

In 2014, NPA Youth for Solidarity focused on continuing the Boycott SodaStream campaign and they held demonstrations in all of Norway's major cities together with partners affiliated with the initiative. In October, we received the good news that the massive international pressure had likely helped to ensure that SodaStream will be moving their production out of the occupied Palestinian territory. The leader of NPA Youth for Solidarity also criticized a TV3 programme in the Norwegian newspaper Dagbladet for giving away SodaStream machines as a prize to participants on the show.

2014 was also the year in which NPA Youth for Solidarity gained momentum in their collaboration with the Stop Hate Speech campaign, and several local chapters have been working directly with the issue of hate speech through local campaigns and membership meetings, which meet at cafés in the evening and work together to respond to hate speech in the comments sections of online newspapers. NPA

**2** new Youth for Solidarity groups (Gimlemoen and Ullandhaug) **10** feature articles/printed articles, **22** meetings with youth parties/trade unions, **70** participants at the Solidarity Conference.

**36** local chapters applied for support in 2014, and **35** received funding. Of these, **12** chapters applied for support for socio-political activities and **23** applied for support for first aid and outdoor activities.





Youth for Solidarity has grown over the year, both in the number of members and the number of local chapters.

### Frifond

In 2014, the NPA received NOK 701,478 from the Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU) and the Frifond organisation, which offers financial support for activities in the local community. These funds are earmarked for activities in local chapters and are used for everything from outdoor activities and first-aid training for NPA Youth Health and Rescue groups to for homework help for immigrants and Boycott Soda-Stream campaigns in NPA Youth for Solidarity.

Young people who are active in organisations are well equipped to continue their participation in society when they become adults. Youth activity is therefore more than just theatre makeup and the fight against nuclear weapons – it is also a school of democracy in action.

### Trade union movement

Our partnership with the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO), local chapters and unions is very important to NPA. It is pleasing to see that our cooperation has been strengthened in recent years and that it has led to a better understanding of NPA among LO's members. We see the

same happening locally when we have joint events and meetings. LO's county conferences and annual meetings in local chapters and unions are important meetings where NPA's employee representatives and employees participate. This good contact also contributes to more regional unions wishing to enter into local project agreements with NPA. Collective membership is a good source of income for our local chapters, in addition collective membership helps strengthen contact between NPA's local chapters and local trade unions.

### Nuclear weapons

2014 was an eventful year for the issue of nuclear weapons, including the participation of both the adminis-

tration and volunteers from NPA Youth for Solidarity at several international conferences and training venues. Three short animated films about the consequences of using nuclear weapons were published in both English and Norwegian in the spring of 2014 and have so far had a total of several thousand views. During the autumn, there was a comprehensive school tour, where over 1,500 secondary school students had the opportunity to hear presentations on nuclear weapons.

Press coverage was good throughout the year, but peaked before and during the HINW conference in Vienna in December. Prior to the conference, Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow visited us and we managed to get her on the season's final broadcast of the Norwegian-Swedish television talk show *Skavlan*. During the conference there were articles on nuclear weapons in all major newspapers, and afterwards, many of the members of NPA Youth for Solidarity who participated had articles written about them in the local press.

By spreading knowledge of nuclear weapons and the great danger that these weapons represent, NPA volunteers and staff contributed to bringing the issue of nuclear weapons to the attention of the general population in 2014.



Photos: Norwegian People's Aid





Photo: Marcel Leijenhof / Tinagent.com

### **Corruption in the humanitarian aid sector is high on the agenda among the Norwegian humanitarian organisations, including NPA.**

Greater openness about the issue over the last few years has sparked increased debate and exchange of experience between organisations in relation to preventive measures and how to deal with cases that arise. Norwegian aid policy has a clear stance that supports this work.

In 2014, NPA had a turnover of NOK 820 million. We work with long-term development and humanitarian disarmament in collaboration with local partners all over the world. A number of the countries where we are present are high on the Transparency Inter-

national list of the most corrupt and conflict-filled countries in the world.

### **Transparency is important**

We recognise that there are problems but we do not accept them. NPA has zero tolerance for all forms of corruption. We aim to achieve a unified attitude towards corruption across the entire organisation and strive for full transparency both with respect to our anti-corruption work and if corruption is uncovered.

Corruption and abuse of power prevents the efficient use of national resources, hampers economic growth and contributes to an unfair distribution of resources in society. Widespread corruption is an indicator of poor governance and a hindrance for a country's democratic development. There is no simple explanation as to

why corruption occurs. Often, it is inadequate systems or there is a culture that facilitates corrupt behaviour. And all too often, poverty and low incomes affect corrupt behaviour.

### **Policy against corruption**

Corruption can emerge in many forms but all are linked to disloyal, criminal behaviour. Corruption has thus become a taboo issue and it requires both courage and awareness to acknowledge that it is also a problem within our organisation. We began working to improve our anti-corruption policy, guidelines and whistleblowing routines in 2011. The policy was completed in 2012. It has now been implemented in the organisation and is under continuous development. The NPA anti-corruption policy involves the head office in Oslo maintaining a system for receiving and managing





notifications of undesirable actions and situations wherever they might arise in the organisation. We also aim to include an evaluation of the risk of corruption in relevant tools and processes within our administration and our project work both nationally and globally. NPA also has a reporting function for all incidents that may involve non-compliance, which we call "incident reporting". Responsibility for reporting incidents rests with the various individuals working in our programmes, both in Norway and abroad, with a monthly report submitted to the head office. The system has a broad scope and includes incidents that may not necessarily indicate corruption but which lie within a grey zone. This system creates greater ownership of anti-corruption work within our various programmes and makes it easier to catch issues that are not initially

regarded as non-compliance with acceptable routines and incidents

### Information for partners

Through contract negotiations, NPA ensures that all our partners establish adequate anti-corruption guidelines and procedures in their own organisations. We conduct assessments of our partners' administrative and control routines and are clear about our zero tolerance policy. At the same time, we recognise that many of our partners lack the necessary capacity to meet these challenges. Where we discover this to be the case, we either introduce the necessary training into our collaboration or offer our partners external support.

## INCIDENTS IN 2014

**In 2014, NPA investigated ten specific instances of suspected corruption or corrupt behaviour. Each case is investigated internally and forwarded to the donor for further action.**

- There were three cases in Cambodia involving defaulted assets in partner organisations. The amounts were between NOK 10,000 and NOK 20,000. Our cooperation with the partner in question has been terminated.
- There were two cases in Zimbabwe where a partner organisation could not document the use of USD 37,000 of NPA financial aid. The case was investigated by an external auditing company, which resulted in NPA and several other aid organisations filing a joint criminal complaint with the local authorities. In the second case, there is an investigation into the suspected use of funds in violation of the agreement.
- There were two cases in Iraq, both concerning partner organisations. One organisation submitted false receipts for USD 2,550. The other organisation submitted a claim for reimbursement of expenses that had not been paid to participants.
- There was a case in Mozambique where an employee embezzled cash. The loss has been covered by the employee as a result of the investigation. The employee has been dismissed from the company as a result of the misappropriation.
- There was a case in Laos where a local employee stole a smaller quantity of gasoline for use or resale.
- There was a case in Bosnia, where services were purchased from a company owned by a close relative of an employee at the office. The case is under investigation and not yet closed.





SANITETSUNGDOM



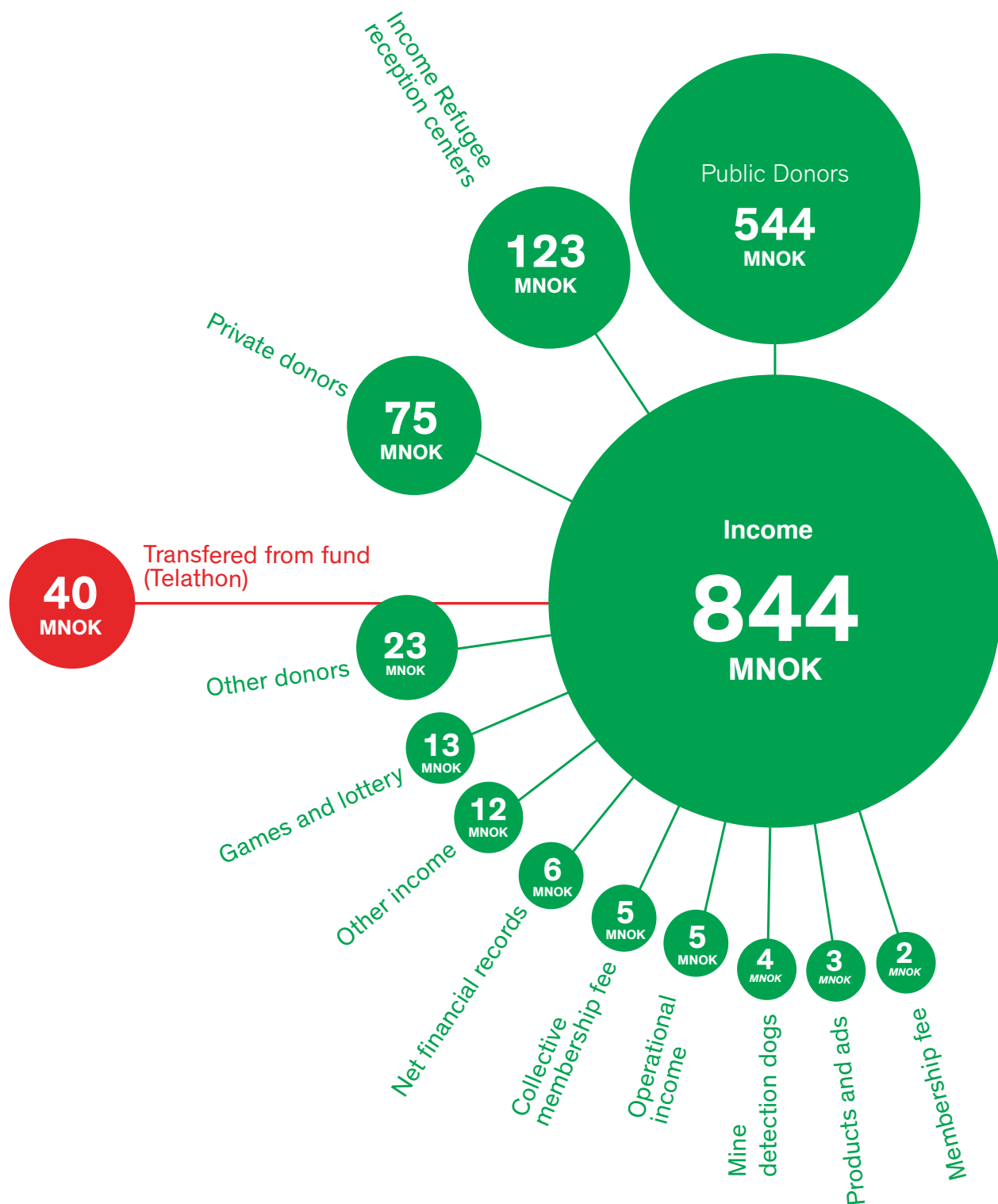
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## ● NPA revenues and expenditures in 2014



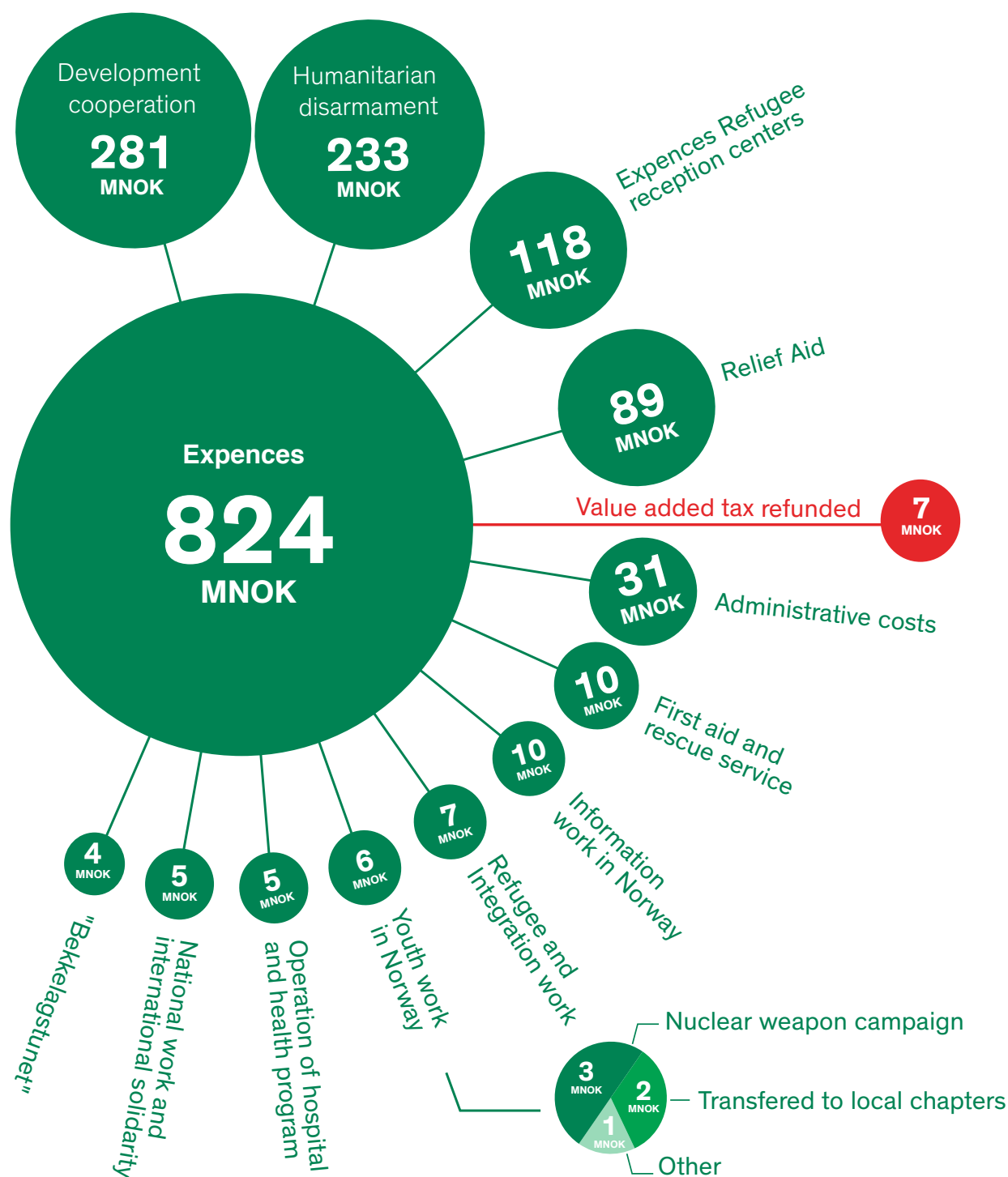
### Local chapters holdings in 2014:

29,1 MNOK income

25,6 MNOK expences

66,2 MNOK savings





#### Regional status in 2014:

- 1,3 MNOK income
  - 1,1 MNOK expences
  - 2,6 MNOK savings
- (The numbers are based on reports from 94 of 104 local chapters)

## Statement of Activities as at 31 December 2014

		(Figures in thousands)	
	Notes	2014	2013
<b>FUNDS ACQUIRED</b>			
Membership fees, individual		2 020	1 996
Collective membership fees		4 966	4 932
<b>Total membership income</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6 987</b>	<b>6 927</b>
Public institutional donors		543 813	552 125
Other donors		23 627	23 326
<b>Total from donors</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>567 440</b>	<b>575 450</b>
Gaming and lotteries		12 932	27 435
Donors		75 012	65 103
2011 TV campaign		0	11
<b>Total funds collected</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>87 944</b>	<b>92 549</b>
Refugee reception centres		123 446	118 798
Other operating income		1 395	3 039
Mine detection dogs		4 000	3 675
Bekkelagstunet, rental income and subsidies		4 020	3 116
<b>Total activities that fulfil the organisation's purpose</b>		<b>132 860</b>	<b>128 628</b>
Advertising sales – APPELL magazine		407	525
Product sales – income		2 428	3 251
<b>Total income-generating activities</b>		<b>2 835</b>	<b>3 777</b>
Net financial items		5 874	10 314
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR PURPOSE</b>		<b>803 941</b>	<b>817 646</b>
<b>FUNDS SPENT</b>			
Gaming and lotteries		9 808	9 935
Donors		19 483	21 164
Product sales – expenses		1 527	1 586
<b>Total expenses for acquisition of funds</b>		<b>30 818</b>	<b>32 685</b>
<b>Expenses for the organisation's purpose</b>			
Mines and weapons		233 384	265 484
Reconstruction, food and emergency aid		88 866	72 105
Long-term development work		281 311	269 875
International solidarity – domestic work		4 763	5 171
Refugee reception centres and other operational units		118 538	114 805
Hospital operations and other health care work		5 029	4 882
First aid and rescue		10 371	7 142
Anti-racism		7 256	8 687
Information work in Norway		9 942	8 805
Youth work in Norway		5 895	7 027
Bekkelagstunet		4 105	2 813
VAT compensation etc.		-7 059	-6 817
<b>Total expenses for purpose</b>		<b>762 403</b>	<b>759 977</b>
<b>Administration expenses</b>			
Administration		30 726	34 267
<b>TOTAL FUNDS SPENT</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>823 947</b>	<b>826 929</b>
<b>RESULT ON ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>-20 006</b>	<b>-9 283</b>
<b>ALLOCATION OF LOSS FROM ACTIVITIES</b>			
Transfer to/from restricted assets with externally-imposed restrictions		-40 493	-39 066
Transfer to/from restricted assets with self-imposed restrictions		1 085	3 338
Transfer to/from other equity		19 402	26 445
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>		<b>-20 006</b>	<b>-9 283</b>

## Balance sheet as at 31 December

(Figures in thousands)

ASSETS	Notes	2014	2013
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	4	16 096	6 664
Pension funds	12	2 807	671
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>18 903</b>	<b>7 335</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Receivables	5	245 739	280 153
Financial current assets	6	31 879	29 462
Bank deposits, cash in hand and the like	11	305 549	297 314
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>583 167</b>	<b>606 929</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>602 070</b>	<b>614 264</b>
<b>ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Other equity	10	87 907	68 505
<b>Assets with restrictions</b>			
Assets with externally-imposed restrictions	10	69 555	110 048
Assets with self-imposed restrictions	10	25 048	23 963
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>182 510</b>	<b>202 516</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Funds received on unfinished projects	2	273 232	264 738
Liabilities to project donors	7	5 400	14 085
Interest owed on funds received	7	556	572
Miscellaneous creditors		37 348	46 558
Taxes and holiday pay owed		29 345	29 064
Provisions for obligations	8	66 124	49 644
Overdraft facility	9	7 553	7 087
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>419 560</b>	<b>411 748</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>		<b>602 070</b>	<b>614 264</b>

Oslo, 19 June 2015



Finn Erik Thoresen  
Chairman of the Board



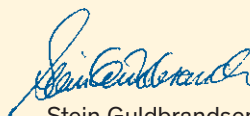
Kjersti E. R. Jenssen  
First Deputy Chairman



Atle Høie  
Second Deputy Chairman




Torulf Mikkelsen  
Northern Region



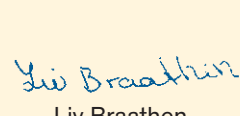
Stein Guldbrandsen  
Norwegian Confederation  
of Trade Unions



Anne Mette Johnsen  
Central Norway Region



Ludvig Eskeland  
South-Western Region



Liv Braathen  
South-Eastern Region



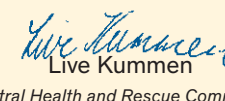
Elin Skovly  
Eastern Region



Jorge Alex Dahl  
Western Region



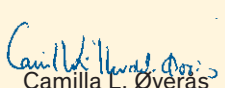
Ingrid Aspelund  
Youth for Solidarity



Live Kummen  
Central Health and Rescue Committee



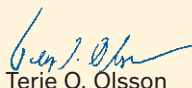
Tord Lier  
Employee Representative



Camilla L. Øverås  
Employee Representative



Peggy A. H. Følsvik  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Terje O. Olsson  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Liv Tørres  
Secretary General



## Cash flow statement

	(Figures in thousands)	
	2014	2013
Profit or loss for the year	-20 006	-9 283
Depreciation	3 965	2 945
Gain/loss on sale of fixed assets	0	0
Change in accounts receivable	34 413	-154 649
Change in accounts payable and other deferred items	5 211	154 506
<b>Net cash flow from operational activities</b>	<b>23 582</b>	<b>-6 481</b>
Other investments	-2 417	-5 442
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	0	0
Payment for acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-13 396	-3 241
<b>Net cash flow from investment activities</b>	<b>-15 813</b>	<b>-8 683</b>
Allocation of funds	0	0
Change in overdraft facility	466	7 087
<b>Net cash flow from financial activities</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>7 087</b>
Net change in cash flow	8 235	-8 077
Bank deposits and cash 1/1	297 314	305 391
<b>Holdings as at 31 December</b>	<b>305 549</b>	<b>297 314</b>

(In all tables, the figures are included in whole thousands, in the rest of the text, whole figures are included.)

## NOTE 1

### Accounting policies:

The annual accounts for Norwegian People's Aid consist of the following:

- Statement of activities
- Balance sheet
- Cash flow statement
- Notes

The accounts, which have been prepared by the organisation's board of directors and management, must be read together with the annual report and the auditor's report.

### Fundamental principles – valuation and classification – Other circumstances

The annual accounts have been presented in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Act and generally accepted accounting principles in Norway, including the Provisional Norwegian Accounting Standard, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for Non-Profit Organisations, as at November 2008. The annual accounts provide a true and fair representation of the organisation's accumulated resources and how these have been used during the year, together with the financial position at the end of the year.

The necessary specification has been done in the notes. The notes are consequently an integrated part of the annual accounts.

The annual accounts are based on the fundamental policies concerning historic cost, comparability, going concern basis, congruence, and caution. The fundamental principles for transactions, earnings and presentation have been deviated from in accordance with Section 4–1, third sub-paragraph of the Norwegian Accounting Act where it can be regarded as generally accepted accounting practice. The accounting policies are elaborated upon below. When actual figures are not available or certain at the time of submitting the accounts, generally accepted accounting practice requires the management to calculate a best possible estimate for use in the annual accounts. There may be discrepancies between estimated and actual figures.

### General policies

Assets for long-term ownership and use are classified as fixed assets. Other assets are classified as current assets.

Valuation of current assets/current liabilities is done at lowest/highest value of acquisition cost and actual value. Actual value is defined as estimated future sale price reduced by expected sale expenses.

Receivables are entered at nominal value less foreseeable losses. Valuation of fixed assets is done at the outset at acquisition cost. Fixed assets which deteriorate are depreciated. If normal sale value falls under balance sheet value at the balance sheet date, the fixed asset is written down.

There are some exceptions from the general valuation rules with respect to generally accepted accounting practice. These exceptions are commented on below. In the application of accounting principles and presentation of transactions and other circumstances, emphasis is placed on economic realities, not merely legal form. Contingent losses that are probable and quantifiable are expensed.

### Accounting policies for material accounting items

#### Time of income recognition/accrual

Income is recognised when it is accrued. For income for which no consideration will be provided, for example, donations and funds raised, this is considered accrued when the following three criteria have been met:

1. The organisation must have a legal right to the income
2. It must be reasonably certain that the income will be received
3. The income must be capable of being measured with sufficient reliability

#### Membership income

The organisation receives and recognises as income the gross membership fees from the members. Seventy-five percent of the membership income is transferred to the local teams and is reflected in the result under funds spent.

#### Received from donors

Contributions for coverage of expenses are recognised as gross income. Where the criteria for income recognition have not been

met, the contribution is recognised as a liability on a separate line in the balance sheet. The contribution is recognised at the value at the time of the transaction. Material contributions which cannot be estimated at an actual market value are reported in a note. Unused project funds are booked as a liability to donor upon project conclusion.

#### **Sponsor funds**

Sponsor income is accrued to income in step with the agreed consideration. Where it is not possible to measure the consideration reliably, linear accrual is used as a practical approximation.

#### **Lottery income**

Lottery income is recognised as gross income. The expenses associated with lotteries, prizes and sales expenses are booked under expenses for acquisition of funds.

#### **Time of expense recognition/compilation**

Expenditures are compiled and expensed simultaneously with the activity related to the expense. This applies both to expenses for acquiring funds and to realizing the purpose. Expenditures which cannot be directly attributed to activities are expensed when they are incurred.

#### **2011 TV campaign**

Norwegian People's Aid conducted the TV campaign for 2011, a nationwide fund-raising campaign under the auspices of the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation.

#### **Taxes**

The organisation has no activities resulting in an obligation to pay taxes.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are entered on the balance sheet at acquisition cost, minus accumulated depreciation and write-downs. An asset is considered fixed if it has an economic life of more than three years and a cost price greater than NOK 15,000. Tangible fixed assets acquired for carrying out projects abroad are expensed at the time of acquisition and charged to the individual projects in accordance with undertakings from donors.

If useful value and re-acquisition cost are lower than value entered on the balance sheet as at the balance sheet date, the asset is written down to actual value. Where sale value is difficult to determine, re-acquisition cost minus depreciation is used as actual value. Where the basis for the write-down has ceased to exist, the write-down is reversed. Write-downs, and any reversing of write-downs, are entered on the same line in the statement of activities. The write-downs are classified as administration expense if they cannot be directly related to an activity.

#### **Depreciation**

Ordinary depreciation is calculated linearly over the assets' estimated life based on historic cost price minus estimated scrap value. The depreciation is classified as administration expense if it cannot be directly related to a project.

#### **Leasing**

For lease agreements that are not entered on the balance sheet (operational leasing), the lease payments are treated as operating expenses. The leasing expenses are classified as administration expense if they cannot be directly related to a project.

#### **Financial investments and receivables**

Market-based stocks, bonds and other financial instruments classified as current assets are valued at actual value if these are listed on an exchange or managed by a professional capital manager and the actual value of the investments can be measured reliably. The result (return and change in value) from such investments is classified as financial and investment income. Receivables are entered on the balance sheet at actual value.

#### **Pension funds and pension expense**

Annual expense is charged to payroll and social expenses. Norwegian People's Aid has no obligations beyond paying premium to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund. A fund at Sparebank 1 Livsforsikring, see Note 12, is used to cover remaining obligations to former and current members of the former agreement and are not included in the accounts. Three persons receive money from this premium fund. The premium fund is considered sufficient to cover future obligations and has therefore not been entered on the balance sheet.



Norwegian People's Aid also has a pension obligation at Kommunal Landspensjonskasse ("Norwegian Municipal National Pension Fund") for previous employees at the Kure Epilepsy Centre. The pension scheme is a defined benefit scheme and is treated in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Standard for pension expenses. Pension funds are booked at estimated value on 31 December 2014, see account statement from the life insurance company, and are corrected annually.

#### Assets in foreign currency/agio

Assets in foreign currency are related to specific projects and agio/disagio is continuously recognised as revenue or expense at the respective projects to the extent possible. The balance at year end is valued at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date, and any agio/disagio is either recognised as income or expense at the project or included in the income and expenditure account under financial income/expenses.

#### Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement has been prepared according to the indirect method. Liquidity reserve includes cash, bank deposits and interest rate funds valued at actual value.

## NOTE 2

### The following public institutional donors have contributed to projects:

	Beginning balance	2014 Grant	Ending balance	2013
<b>The following public institutional donors have contributed</b>				
The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs, Allocation Committee, Youth (illegible)	35	758	-	653
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	25 616	135 482	(13 859)	157 406
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	142 331	231 503	(121 709)	228 872
Norwegian Directorate of Immigration Refugee Reception Centre	797	3 000	(977)	
Other Norwegian governmental entities	697	7 480	(103)	24 705
<b>Total Norwegian</b>	<b>169 477</b>	<b>378 223</b>	<b>(136 649)</b>	<b>411 636</b>
USAID	-	27 212	-	35 126
U.S. Department of State	34 296	47 271	(44 873)	31 484
EU	33 364	16 807	(39 522)	11 142
South Sudan (GOSS)	553	8 352	(6 385)	3 262
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	3 164	(1 337)	
Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	252	25 506	(4 461)	25 258
Germany	24	3 351	-	11 389
England (DFID)	13 713	20 414	(13 969)	
Other countries	395	4 903	(1 019)	8 892
Other international organisations	82	15 133	(8 208)	
<b>Total international</b>	<b>82 679</b>	<b>172 113</b>	<b>(119 773)</b>	<b>126 553</b>
<b>Total public institutional donors</b>	<b>252 156</b>	<b>550 336</b>	<b>(256 422)</b>	<b>538 189</b>
Other international organisations	(12)	2 046	(171)	16 631
Other Norwegian NGOs	1 212	1 732	(196)	6 695
Finance	395	-	(327)	
NPA own contribution	-	150	(125)	
United Nations	424	10 445	(17)	14 589
Other international organisations	4 532	22 814	(10 556)	
NPA own contribution	-	313	(206)	
Product sales	-	73	-	
<b>Total other donors</b>	<b>6 552</b>	<b>37 573</b>	<b>(11 598)</b>	<b>37 914</b>
<b>Total donor contributions</b>	<b>258 708</b>	<b>587 909</b>	<b>(268 020)</b>	<b>576 103</b>
Correction transferred from Funds collected		(11 157)		
<b>Funds spent</b>		<b>567 440</b>		<b>576 103</b>

The donor funds must be used in accordance with grant.

**NOTE 3****The following donors have contributed**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Individuals	36 580	31 192
Firms	6 196	10 156
Trade union movement	16 694	7 738
Norsk Tipping, contributed lottery funds	15 542	16 029
<b>Total Donors</b>	<b>75 012</b>	<b>65 115</b>

**Gaming and lotteries**

National lottery	12 932	13 293
Gaming compensation	0	14 142
<b>Total Gaming and Lotteries</b>	<b>12 932</b>	<b>27 435</b>

**Total funds raised**

**87 944**                      **92 550**

**NOTE 4****Spesifikasjon av varige driftsmidler**

	<b>Building lots and buildings</b>	<b>Fixtures and furnishings</b>	<b>IT equipment</b>	<b>Software</b>	<b>Vehicles</b>	<b>Other fixed assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
Acquisition cost	1 279	13 917	6 040	16 124	732	2 274	40 366
Additions	10 364	884	105	2 044	0	0	13 396
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closing balance acquisition cost	11 643	14 801	6 145	18 167	732	2 274	53 763
Opening balance accumulated depreciation	448	10 094	4 950	15 314	622	2 274	33 702
Annual depreciation	0	2 793	298	815	58	0	3 965
Accumulated depreciation on sold fixed assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closing balance accumulated depreciation	448	12 887	5 249	16 129	680	2 274	37 666
<b>Recognised value at 31/12</b>	<b>11 196</b>	<b>1 914</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>2 038</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16 096</b>

The fixed assets have a depreciation period of 3-5 years. Building lots are not depreciated. Norwegian People's Aid has a leasing agreement for leasing copiers. The agreements are considered operational leasing and the total leasing expenses are directly expensed under operating expenses.

Norwegian People's Aid started construction in 2013 on a new office building in South Sudan. Incurred costs as at 31 December 2013 have been expensed in 2013. Amortised over 6 years. Expenses in 2014 have been capitalised.

Norwegian People's Aid holds lease agreements on our refugee reception centres. The duration of these corresponds to the duration of our operating agreement with the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration with termination periods of one to three months.

**NOTE 5****Short term receivables**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
International project donors	198 315	253 412
Other receivables	47 424	26 741
<b>Total</b>	<b>245 739</b>	<b>280 15</b>

There are no receivables falling due for payment later than one year after the end of the fiscal year.

Receivables from donors mainly involve pledges received on projects in progress. To the extent the funds have not been used, they are also entered on the liabilities side of the balance sheet under the item "Funds on unfinished projects".

**NOTE 6****Stocks/Shares**

	2014	2013
Value as at 1/1	29 462	24 020
Purchase	18 232	2 546
Sale	18 232	2 959
Return	1 967	5 855
<b>Value as at 31/12</b>	<b>31 429</b>	<b>29 462</b>

**NOTE 7****Liabilities to project donors**

For various reasons, individual projects show better results than budgeted. These are funds that are to be repaid to donors pursuant to contract.

**Interest owed on funds received**

Accrued interest on funds received from donors which by agreement must be repaid.

**NOTE 8****Provisions for obligations**

	2014	2013
Provisions for severance schemes at field offices (see Note 12)	41 949	32 127
Other provisions	17 901	12 887
Provision for project auditing	6 274	4 629
<b>Total provisions for obligations</b>	<b>66 124</b>	<b>49 643</b>

**NOTE 9****Overdraft facility**

The overdraft facility has a limit of NOK 20.3 million and was set up in 2013 in connection with construction of an office building in South Sudan. It will be converted to an ordinary loan upon completion of the building. The building will be completed in January 2015.

**NOTE 10****Net change in assets**

	Opening balance 1/1	Additions	Used	Closing balance 31/12	Net change
Other equity	68 505	19 402		87 907	19 402
Assets related to purpose with externally-imposed restrictions 1)	110 048	16 343	56 836	69 555	-40 493
Assets related to purpose with self-imposed restrictions 2)	23 963	1 085	0	25 048	1 085
<b>Total</b>	<b>202 516</b>	<b>36 830</b>	<b>56 836</b>	<b>182 510</b>	<b>-20 006</b>

1) Assets related to purpose with externally-imposed restrictions are mainly related to the TV

**2011 TV campaign**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Raised
Opening balance								
TV campaign	0	-172	186 263	140 288	104 872			
Funds raised		220 162	594	11	4			220 771
Interest income	0	944	4 231	2 566	1 871			9 611
Used	172	34 671	50 800	37 993	47 936			171 572
<b>Closing balance</b>								
<b>TV campaign</b>	<b>-172</b>	<b>186 263</b>	<b>140 288</b>	<b>104 872</b>	<b>58 810</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>58 810</b>

Assets with externally-imposed restrictions include funds from the TV campaign for 2011, a nationwide fund-raising campaign under the auspices of the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation.

The funds will be used over a five-year period beginning in 2012.

Funds raised from the TV campaign were recognised as revenue in their entirety. The effect in the accounts is that funds spent become greater than funds acquired, and the residual part of spent funds for the purpose is taken from balance sheet assets related to the TV campaign.



Remaining assets with externally-imposed restrictions are related to various other purposes.  
The increase from 2013 is due mainly to a testamentary gift to our mine-clearing work.

2) Itemisation of assets related to purpose with self-imposed restrictions:

<b>Net changes in equity</b>	<b>Opening balance 1/1</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Used</b>	<b>Closing balance 31/12</b>	<b>Net change</b>
Funds raised	5 039	0	0	5 039	0
Provision for reception centres	2 100	0	0	2 100	0
Furumo/Løren	15 724	1 085	0	16 809	1 085
Norsk Hydro donation	1 100	0	0	1 100	0
	<b>23 963</b>	<b>1 085</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25 048</b>	<b>1 085</b>

Funds raised are donations which have not been earmarked for a particular purpose.

Donation from Norsk Hydro of NOK 10,000,000 was originally given in 2005. Norwegian People's Aid has decided that the Board of Directors is the grantor for the Norsk Hydro funds. Funds were not used in 2014, and thus NOK 1,100,000 remains.

Provision for reception centres is for expenses related to future discontinuation of refugee reception centres.

The return on the Furumo/Løren fund must be used for the benefit of the occupationally disabled and other vulnerable groups, with a view to improving their circumstances and their opportunity to participate in the workplace.  
The return may also be used on measures to raise awareness.

#### **NOTE 11**

<b>Bank deposits, cash in hand and the like</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Taxes withheld from employees	7 285	6 639
<b>Total blocked bank deposits</b>	<b>7 285</b>	<b>6 639</b>
Other restricted funds not in blocked account	150 644	172 211
Other restricted funds in foreign accounts	79 918	44 144
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>230 562</b>	<b>216 355</b>
Unrestricted funds	67 703	74 320
<b>Total bank deposits, cash in hand and the like</b>	<b>305 549</b>	<b>297 314</b>

#### **NOTE 12**

<b>Pensions and other obligations to employees</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Premium fund	100	100
<b>Total pensions and other obligations</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Payroll expenses</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Payroll expenses for all field employees	198 179	186 159
Payroll expenses for reception centres and projects in Norway	69 090	70 188
Payroll expenses at headquarters and regional offices	39 572	36 277
Employer contribution to Norwegian National Insurance Scheme	17 266	17 485
Pension expenses	921	4 204
Other expenses	46 743	51 397
<b>Total payroll expenses</b>	<b>371 771</b>	<b>365 710</b>

As at 31 December, 100 full-time equivalents at the central administration and the regional offices in Norway were paid from the headquarters, 81 at the Refugee Reception Centres, 2 at other operational units and 85 on contract at the field stations. Approximately 2,000 local employees were paid from the field offices.

## Pensions

The organisation has 310 employees covered by the rules on compulsory occupational pensions, the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund.

Norwegian People's Aid has a pension scheme for previous employees at the Kure Epilepsy Centre which covers 26 people. This defined benefit scheme mainly depends on the number of pension saving years, salary level at attained retirement age and the benefit amount from the Norwegian national insurance scheme. The obligation is covered through a collective pension agreement at Kommunal Landspensjonskasse ("Norwegian Municipal National Pension Fund") – Gjensidige Forsikring.

<b>Pension funds/obligation</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Gross incurred pension obligation	26 830	29 824
Pension funds	20 517	20 269
Net obligation before employer contribution to Norwegian National Insurance Scheme	6 313	9 555
Employer contribution to Norwegian National Insurance Scheme	890	1 347
Gross incurred obligation including National Insurance contribution	27 720	31 171
Net obligation including National Insurance contribution	7 203	10 902
Estimate discrepancy not booked excluding National Insurance contribution	-8 870	-10 230
National Insurance contribution estimate discrepancy not booked	-1 140	-1 344
<b>Recognised net assets/liability after employer contribution</b>	<b>-2 807</b>	<b>-672</b>

## Economic assumptions:

Discount rate	2,30 %	4,20 %
Expected salary adjustment	2,75 %	3,50 %
Expected G (basic amount from Statistics Norway) adjustment	2,50 %	3,25 %
Expected return on fund assets	3,20 %	4,00 %

## Provision for severance payments at field offices

Provision for severance payments at field offices has been included in the total payroll expenses where this is legally required. There are various practices at the individual field offices, and it is the programme country's rules on severance pay, where these exist, that determine the matter.

Norwegian People's Aid has estimated the future obligation and has a plan in collaboration with donors for provisions for severance payments.

## Fees/salaries for members of the Board of Directors and the Secretary General

No remuneration was paid to the Board of Directors in 2014. Total salary for 2014 paid to the Secretary General amounts to NOK 915,946, while other benefits totalled NOK 10,355. The Secretary General participates in Norwegian People's Aid's regular pension scheme and receives no other form of remuneration than regular salary. Employer's share of pension amounted to NOK 21,072. Norwegian People's Aid has no obligations to remunerate the Secretary General upon cessation or changes in the employment relationship.

## Auditor

Agreed audit fee for annual audit of Norwegian People's Aid is NOK 381,000. Donors impose requirements for special certification for all projects. For project auditing in Norway and at our field offices, NOK 8,320,198 has been expensed. Expenses for other services were NOK 890,766. All amounts include VAT. The fee also applies to auditors other than our group auditor EY AS.

## Consultants

Total expenses for consultants in 2014 are NOK 18.9 million.

## NOTE 13

<b>Financial items</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Interest income	1 063	3331
Return on stocks/shares	1 967	5 855
Other	2 844	1 128
	<b>5 874</b>	<b>10 314</b>

## NOTE 14

### Operating expenses by category

	2014	2013
Payroll expenses	371 771	365 710
Transferred to partners in project countries	169 447	156 541
Depreciation of plant and equipment and intangible assets	3 965	2 945
Other operating expenses	278 764	301 733
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>823 947</b>	<b>826 929</b>

## NOTE 15

Administration ratio and charitable purpose ratio	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Administration expenses 1)	3,7 %	4,2 %	3,7 %	2,9 %	3,0 %	2,5 %
Expenses related to purpose 2)	92,5 %	92,2 %	92,6 %	90,0 %	93,1 %	93,7 %
Fund-raising ratio 3)	65,0 %	67,5 %	66,8 %	68,0 %	67,0 %	74,0 %

1) The administration expense is calculated as: Administration expenses/Total funds spent

2) Expenses related to purpose are calculated as: Total expenses for purpose/Total funds spent

3) The fund-raising ratio is calculated as: Net donors/Gross donors

"Expenses are attributed to the greatest extent possible to the activities to which they relate. Expenses such as rent, IT/ Communications, insurance and fixtures and furnishings relating to more than one activity are allocated to activities according to full-time equivalents and volume. These expenses amounted to NOK 17.4 million in 2014. Under the provisional accounting standard for non-profit organisations, expenses for administration are the activities performed to operate the organisation which cannot be allocated directly to particular activities. Among other things, administration includes expenses at the central administration in Norway related to the board of Directors, Secretary General and her staff, HR, finance and accounting, and amount to 30.7 million in 2014."

## NOTE 16

### Related parties

For Norwegian People's Aid, the term related parties is defined to include only the Board of Directors, management and other employees, together with trade unions affiliated with the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions. In 2014, Norwegian People's Aid received NOK 12.4 million from trade unions affiliated with the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions. There have been no transactions with the other related parties that are relevant in this respect.

Oslo, 19 June 2015



Finn Erik Thoresen  
Chairman of the Board



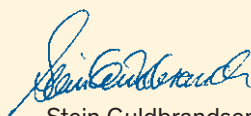
Kjersti E. R. Jenssen  
First Deputy Chairman



Atle Høie  
Second Deputy Chairman



Torulf Mikkelsen  
Northern Region



Stein Guldbrandsen  
Norwegian Confederation  
of Trade Unions



Anne Mette Johnsen  
Central Norway Region



Ludvig Eskeland  
South-Western Region



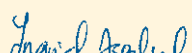
Liv Braathen  
South-Eastern Region



Elin Skovly  
Eastern Region



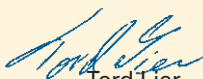
Jorge Alex Dahl  
Western Region



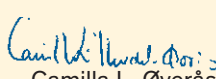
Ingrid Aspelund  
Youth for Solidarity



Live Kummén  
Central Health and Rescue Committee



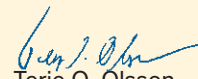
Tord Lier  
Employee Representative



Camilla L. Øverås  
Employee Representative



Peggy A. H. Følsvik  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Terje O. Olsson  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Liv Tørres  
Secretary General



Norsk Folkehjelp (Norwegian People's Aid) is the labour movement's humanitarian organisation for solidarity. Nationally and internationally, Norwegian People's Aid works to improve living conditions for vulnerable groups of people, helping to bring about a fairer society.

Norwegian People's Aid is a membership organisation with four main priority areas:

- (a) First aid and rescue services
- (b) Inclusion work and work with refugees
- (c) Work with mines and explosives
- (d) Long-term development work

The work is organised into two core areas:

- Protection of life and health
- Fair distribution of power and resources.

A large part of the activity in Norway is based on the members' voluntary efforts. The first aid and rescue service constitutes important voluntary community involvement in national emergency management services. Nationally, Norwegian People's Aid is also involved in refugee and integration work, and internationally with solidarity work. Internationally, as of 31 December 2014, Norwegian People's Aid was involved in 40 countries in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Norwegian People's Aid is currently one of the world's largest humanitarian actors working with cluster bomb and mine clearance.

## I ORGANISATION

### Members and local teams

At the end of the year, the organisation had 12,065 members in 104 teams, of whom 2,135 members were under the age of 26 (counting members for measuring support from the Norwegian Ministry of Children and Equality).

The national conference in 2011 adopted several organisational changes, including the division of young members into two separate target groups with their own internal organisation within Norwegian People's Aid. We are seeing both Youth for Solidarity and Youth Health and Rescue grow and strengthen themselves as youth movements, both internally and externally.

A clear focus of the work in 2014 was to progress as much as possible on the supply side of the local teams, by developing several regular concepts. These will be rolled out in 2015. In addition, a great job has been done on working towards more local visibility, for example, by sending out suggestions for opinion pieces and campaigns that can be carried out locally.

Throughout the entire year, there has been a focus on establishing new local teams, in accordance with a decision by the Board of Directors. A survey has been made of all the municipalities in Norway to identify municipalities and places with potential. This work will continue in 2015.

Seven new local teams have been established in 2014, Norwegian People's Aid Hitra, Norwegian People's Aid Vennesla, Norwegian People's Aid Kristiania, Norwegian People's Aid Hasvik, Norwegian People's Aid Youth for Solidarity Tromsø, Norwegian People's Aid Youth for Solidarity Ullandhaug and Norwegian People's Aid Youth for Solidarity Gimlemoen.

### Composition and work of the Board of Directors

As of 31 December 2014, the Board of Directors was composed of:

Chairman of the Board of Directors	Finn Erik Thoresen	Employee representative	Tord Lier
First Deputy Chairman	Kjersti E.R. Jenssen	Employee representative	Camilla Lillevold-Øverås
Second Deputy Chairman	Atle Høie		
Northern Region	Torulf Mikkelsen	<i>Collective members:</i>	
Central Region	Anne Mette Johnsen	Norwegian Confederation	
South-Western Region	Ludvig Eskeland	of Trade Unions	Peggy Hessen Følsvik
South-Eastern Region	Liv Braathen	Norwegian Confederation	
Eastern Region	Elin Skovly	of Trade Unions	Terje O. Olsson
Western Region	Jorge Alex Dahl	Norwegian Union of Municipal	
Youth for Solidarity	Ingrid Rostad	and General Employees	Stein Guldbrandsen
Central Health and Rescue Committee	Live Kummen		

The Board of Directors has held four meetings in 2014, while the Audit Committee has held four meetings. In addition, there has been a total of eight meetings in the executive committee, which consists of the chairman of the Board of Directors and two deputy chairmen. In September, a Dialogue Conference was held between the Board of Directors and the local teams to strengthen contact and have a closer dialogue.

## **Administration**

Norwegian People's Aid has its headquarters in Oslo. Liv Tørres has been Secretary General during the period.

## **Restructuring**

The Head office completed in 2012 a restructuring of the administration to gain better economic results in the short and long term, and to ensure better control and management, as well as providing a clearer division of tasks.

# **II RESULTS FOR 2014**

## **Financial highlights**

The Board has prepared the accounts for 2014 on the basis of the assumption that the organisation will continue to operate. The annual accounts encompass the non-profit organisation known as Norwegian People's Aid, which is an association that does not have financial gain as its purpose. The annual accounts do not reflect the local team accounts. The activities result for the year is a loss of NOK 20 million versus a loss of NOK 9.3 million in 2013. Funds acquired last year were NOK 803.9 million versus NOK 817.6 million in 2013.

The operating result of a loss of NOK 20 million will be allocated as follows: NOK 40.5 million from assets with externally-imposed restrictions, NOK 1.1 million will be transferred to assets with internally-imposed restrictions and NOK 19.4 million will be transferred to other equity. As at 31 December 2014, total assets amounted to NOK 182.5 million, versus NOK 202.5 million in 2013. Other equity as at 31 December 2014 amounted to NOK 87.9 million, versus NOK 68,5 million in 2013.

The Board made a decision in Case 7.3.2013 regarding an assessment of the desired level of assets for Norwegian People's Aid. The analysis attached to the case documents indicated that the assets, and particularly Other (unrestricted) Equity, are too low. The Board therefore decided that Other Equity should amount to at least 10 % of the turnover. The trend has been particularly positive the last three years. With the positive result for this year, other equity has increased to 10.7 % at the end of 2014.

Norwegian People's Aid chose in 2011 to enter the amount raised from the 2011 TV campaign of approximately NOK 220 million as liabilities on the balance sheet (current and long-term) and then recognise as income the funds in 2011 and 2012 as they are spent. In 2013, the policy was changed to recognising the funds in the year in which they were raised. In other words, the amount raised in 2011 is added to the assets with externally-imposed restrictions. The effect in the annual accounts for 2014 is that funds spent becomes greater than funds acquired, and the residual part of spent funds for the purpose is taken from the assets entered on the balance sheet related to the TV campaign. The modification of income recognition policy rests on a reassessment of the standard for non-profit organisations. Comparable figures for 2012 have been reworked.

## **Income from marketing**

Norsk Folkehjelp har de siste årene satset tungt på markedsarbeid for å få inn hardt tiltrengte (frie) inntekter. Norwegian People's Aid has concentrated heavily in the last few years on marketing in order to bring in badly needed (unrestricted) income. At the same time, we see that the competition for unrestricted income, donations and the battle for regular donors is increasing in Norway. Financial problems in many countries are contributing to cuts in aid budgets which in turn makes the "Norwegian market" more attractive among many domestic and international organisations.

In 2014, the focus was on regular donors ("Folkehjelpere") and the trade union movement, as outlined in the Marketing Strategy adopted by the Board (Case 05.2.13). The strategy clearly states that "The main objective for fund-raising is to assist in strengthening the finances of Norwegian People's Aid, by developing increased unrestricted equity and increased financial freedom to act in the annual budgets." In addition, a strong focus on work directed at the business community and the concept "Hire a mine detection dog" was initiated.

## **NINETEEN PERCENT MORE #FOLKEHJELPERE IN 2014**

We greatly appreciate our "folkehjelpere", as we call our regular donors. Our "folkehjelpere" are very loyal, and most of them are with us for many years. Thanks to successful recruitment campaigns, the number of "folkehjelpere" increased by 19 % last year. Each "folkehjelper" contributes on average about NOK 14,000 in the course of his or her time as a donor. Being a "folkehjelper" involves supporting people in changing their own lives.

## TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

The work with the trade union movement was a highly prioritised area in 2014. At the same time, we see that the effort requires resources and strong provision of services from Norwegian People's Aid, something which in turn requires working hours and priority from all parts of the organisation. The Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees is still the most important partner in the trade union movement in terms of cooperation and financial support.

The trade union movement is recognised as our most important collaboration partner. Interest in the work of Norwegian People's Aid is increasing at both the union level and in the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions. In parallel with this, financial support is also increasing for the programmes of Norwegian People's Aid. Many of the trade unions want to support self-financed portions (Norad, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation) and want "their countries". This also means challenges when countries or programmes are "filled" by others or programmes are discontinued.

Employees of Norwegian People's Aid participate to a great degree at county conferences of the Confederation of Trade Unions and in the unions to disseminate information and hold lectures on matters of interest.

"People changing the world" is the annual fund-raising campaign conducted by Norwegian People's Aid and the labour movement in connection with May 1st.. The theme for 2014 was a focus on democracy and the right to organise. Slightly less than NOK 1 million was raised through various activities.

Notodden Bluesfestival, under the auspices of the labour movement, brought in NOK 100,000 for Norwegian People's Aid.

## COOP

Coop is still a key supporter, and the agreement was renewed in April 2015. Coop annually supports Norwegian People's Aid projects with NOK 2 million. Customers in Coop stores can choose to give the money from the reverse vending machines to Coop's solidarity fund. Work is actively being done on following up with Coop and getting a closer and stronger dialogue with a new contact person from Coop for the collaboration. In addition, we worked closely in 2014 with KLP (the "Norwegian Municipal National Pension Fund") and the Norwegian Humanist Association to bring about an income-producing collaboration in the years ahead.

## MIN AKSJON (MY CAMPAIGN)

Our electronic fund-raising tool – <http://minaksjon.folkehjelp.no> – which was launched in 2013 has shown itself to be a good investment. Individuals, companies and trade unions that have chosen to start their own fund-raising for selected purposes have since the start raised a total of just under NOK 3 million.

## DE 10 HUMANITÆRE (10 HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATIONS)

Norwegian People's Aid has maintained good cooperation with the other 10H organisations in 2014. For our ten organisations, the cooperation had three main priorities:

- Political influence on Norwegian gaming policy,
- Working to maintain 10H's share of lottery profits, and
- Gaming cooperation between Norsk Tipping (NT) and 10H.

After the change in government in the autumn of 2013, the consultation procedure on a new distribution of the 18 % of Norsk Tipping profits that goes to humanitarian and socially-beneficial organisations was not conducted. The Norwegian Ministry of Culture, with new political leadership, chose to prioritise amendment of the lottery regulations before any change to the distribution formula for Norsk Tipping profits was considered. Through the 10H collaboration, Norwegian People's Aid has had close contact and good cooperation with the Ministry of Culture with respect to the matter.



### **III OPERATIONS**

The core activities of Norwegian People's Aid are divided into two main areas: Fair distribution of power and resources and protection of life and health. Work is done both in Norway and internationally within the framework of these two core areas.

#### **In Norway**

The national strategy for the period 2012-2015 emphasises activities within the field of first aid and rescue services, inclusion of minorities and work with refugees, as well as activities linked to international issues, in order to strengthen international solidarity work.

As of 31 December 2014, we have 60 operational search and rescue groups. These are distributed across all the counties in Norway. We have 2,000 authorised search and rescue group members. In 2014, we participated in 316 rescue operations. More than 10,000 course hours were conducted under the auspices of the organisation.

The first aid and rescue service has accentuated its profile during the period. Not least, there has been a gratifying development in activities and number of teams and groups.

We are noticing increasing course activity locally and regionally and increasing participation in headquarters courses which represent our highest level of training of managers and instructors. We are establishing new groups and the groups have a more specialised and operational manifestation.

In terms of first aid, the organisation has been strengthened through a) a project related to handling of patients away from roads and b) a project related to first aid in the event of illness and injury among the elderly. In addition, the First Aid and Rescue Professional Conference has strongly focussed on first aid/emergency medicine. In 2014, we launched a special handbook for the rescue service for the handling of persons with dementia.

Our operational services are a combination of being an organised rescue resource which can also provide patient-directed efforts. It is this fundamental competence that enables us to have a "multi-role" approach at the accident scene, so that we can perform different tasks based on need.

Our local teams search missions for missing persons, search and rescue operations and training in first aid as key elements in their operations. There are local variations in regards to what additional skills the teams have, such as sea or avalanche rescue, or different modes of transport (snowmobiles, ATVs). This ability to adapt to local conditions is one of the features which set us apart from other rescue organisations. On the medical side, teams are being established that specialise in avalanche or mountain rescue, or which operate exclusively as search teams. This is a development that we expect to see more of in the years ahead. At the same time, it is important for all regions to have strong local teams which work broadly in the fields which have traditionally been of importance to Norwegian People's Aid.

The specialist medical conference is a new arena which was established and held for the first time in 2012. This was a success and has been so far perhaps the biggest gathering of operational medical staff working for Norwegian People's Aid. The conference was well-attended in 2014. This confirms the importance of creating a specialised, future-oriented forum for the medical services.

Norwegian People's Aid has also decided in 2014 on increased effort in the first aid and rescue services, through financing of three new positions. This could increase the performance and capacity of all parts of the unit.

We have repeatedly highlighted in 2014 the right to participation in the rescue service without loss of pay. This will also be a subject of attention in 2015.

## YOUTH FIRST AID AND RESCUE

There is growth in the number of Youth First Aid and Rescue groups and several teams are interested in starting work with youth.

Youth First Aid and Rescue has strengthened its profile and has a clear, modern face with its three focus areas: "first aid, rescue service and outdoor activities". Youth First Aid and Rescue has a high level of activity with summer camp, autumn camp and several winter camps. This has been a success and participation is increasing.

Going forward, the attention is on getting more activity at the regional level and not least on the medical and rescue service contributing to growth and development for Youth First Aid and Rescue by providing motivated, well-qualified adult leaders and giving young people a necessary place on the local team.

Currently there are 29 Youth First Aid and Rescue groups, and several teams have announced interest in starting up new Youth First Aid and Rescue groups. At the same time, we see that it is a challenge to provide well-motivated adult contacts for Youth First Aid and Rescue. This has been identified as a critical success factor because Youth First Aid and Rescue members may be as young as 13 and also need good adult resources for trips, courses and exercises. Work has been done on raising the status of the adult leader for Youth First Aid and Rescue. There is growth in the number of days of activity for Youth First Aid and Rescue.

Youth First Aid and Rescue has held 5 committee meetings and considered 32 cases in 2014. Among major cases in 2014, Youth First Aid and Rescue has worked a great deal on the preparation for the National Conference.

## INCLUSION WORK AND WORK WITH REFUGEES

Norwegian People's Aid is the only large humanitarian organisation that operates asylum reception centres. At the end of 2014, we operated 9 asylum reception centres in addition to the reception service for quota refugees at Oslo Airport Gardermoen. During the course of the year, we won a tender for further operation of Hovelsåsen Reception Centre, and new tenders for Torshov and Haslemoen Transit Centres. At the same time, we lost the competition for operation of Refstad and Hvalsmoen, and the contract at Ringsaker was ended on 31 December. During 2014, a thorough review has been conducted of the reception centre operation including a focus on improved quality within applicable financial limits, and this work will be continued in 2015.

On behalf of the County Governor, Norwegian People's Aid has continued its work on training guardians and representatives for lone, minor-aged asylum seekers in addition to administering the distribution of assignments. Approximately 1,000 minors were given a representative by this scheme in 2014.

There is increasing interest in the anti-racism work, especially among socially-committed youth. On World Refugee Day, 20 June 2014, there were events at all asylum reception centres belonging to Norwegian People's Aid. The "Fordommer Fordummer" ("Prejudices Make You Stupid") conference was held in Oslo in connection to the UN's Anti-Racism Day on 21 March at Litteraturhuset with more than 120 participants. In addition to this, the following were completed:

- Fordommer.no was updated with ten new myths
- The Facebook page has increased by 1,000 new followers in 2014 to 27,200, and we have had more than 400 followers on Twitter
- Fifteen new racism-free zones were established, including Fredrikstad Municipality with 70 units.

The work against radicalisation started in the autumn of 2014 and involves work against both right-wing extremism and Islamist extremism. A survey was made of possible donor funds and an assessment of what Norwegian People's Aid's role in this landscape will be.

Norwegian People's Aid has continued to operate an au-pair advice and information centre, and the centre has handled more than 800 cases during the course of 2014, which is double the amount from the year before.

"I mine sko" ("In my shoes") was produced in collaboration with photographer Ole Brodersen. In this, two individuals and a family who live as undocumented people tell about their everyday lives in Norway. The exhibition opened at the Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology in the autumn of 2014.

Norwegian People's Aid continued in 2014 the collaboration with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees on inclusion and refugee work.

## INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

A project trip was made in 2014 to Latin America by six participants from various parts of the organisation, whose goals included spreading commitment and knowledge about international solidarity in the organisation.

Twenty-nine local teams report that they are working on international solidarity. This is an increase from 22 local teams in 2013. Among other things, this may be due to several large humanitarian catastrophes, together with the situation in Gaza in the summer of 2014.

The fight against nuclear weapons and the Boycott SodaStream campaign have had particular emphasis in 2014, spawning a great deal of activity.

## YOUTH FOR SOLIDARITY

Youth for Solidarity had 10 local teams and 4 groups at the end of 2014. Youth for Solidarity has had a great deal of activity in many areas in 2014. The main focus has been on the nuclear weapon campaign with much activity locally, together with lobbying and a high level of participation in international forums. Youth for Solidarity has sent delegations to the most important forums for civil society and nations in 2014, with participation at ICAN Berlin Sessions in January by four persons, NPT New York by two persons in April/May, ICAN Action Academy in Berlin by four persons in September, ICAN Civil Society Forum in Vienna by nine persons and the international conference "Vienna Conference on humanitarian impacts of nuclear weapons" by three persons. This has led to a good level of competence and experience in lobbying at an international level, and it ensured the competence in the member organisation for continuing the political pressure in Norway based on fresh updates on how the international community positions itself relative to each other in the process towards prohibiting nuclear weapons.

In Norway, this knowledge has been brought to the politicians by arranging a lunch with the leaders in the political party youth organisations, which everyone except the Young Conservatives and the Progress Party attended, where they got to meet Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow. The lunch meeting resulted in an opinion article from the youth leaders in which they challenge Norway to lead the way in the work towards a nuclearweapon-free world. In Norway, Youth for Solidarity has run the "With Syria Campaign" together with the rest of Norwegian People's Aid, to encourage donations of money to Syria. In April, they made a promotional film for Youth for Solidarity which can be used to promote the organisation, and they have participated in many commemorations and demonstrations. The Summer Tour in 2014 was conducted with visits to collaboration partners and other organisations that wished to have introductions and workshops regarding the work of Norwegian People's Aid and Youth for Solidarity, as well as strong participation at the annual Arendalsuka political forum.

At the end of September, they had their annual Solidarity Conference which drew a record number of young people, 70 in all, which is more than twice as many as previous years. The Boycott SodaStream campaign has been continued from 2012, and there has been a great deal of activity locally related to this campaign. Happy news came just before Christmas that SodaStream is planning to move its production out of occupied areas, but the campaign will continue until the company has done this.

Youth for Solidarity has had broad participation at various fora in the trade union movement and in the political party youth organisations, and it has strengthened the collaboration with these. Youth for Solidarity has also been very visible in local and national media with opinion articles, reader submissions and radio interviews. They have had a large increase in the number of followers on social media. On Instagram, for example, they are followed by several organisations, ministries and key figures in Norwegian politics.

## International

### WORK FOR A FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF POWER AND RESOURCES AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

2014 was the year when much of the long-term work had to be turned upside down because of humanitarian crises. The extensive unrest which broke out in South Sudan in December 2013 resulted in Norwegian People's Aid scaling up the humanitarian effort tremendously. During the course of the year, Norwegian People's Aid was responsible for about 20 percent of the food distribution in South Sudan, which became one of the world's three greatest humanitarian crises during the year. 340,000 people received food support from Norwegian People's Aid. Long-term projects also had to be adjusted somewhat. Nevertheless, Norwegian People's Aid has continued to be able to maintain large parts of the long-term development work in cooperation with our partners. Norwegian People's Aid's mine-clearing work, primary health services, agricultural development and support for development of civil society organisations and free media have continued through



the year. Norwegian People's Aid's new office building in Juba was also completed and we moved in at the end of 2014.

In addition, our country programmes in Palestine and Iraq were hit hard by the humanitarian crises there. Some of the activities in Gaza were transformed and the humanitarian effort scaled up after Israel's extensive bombing. In Iraq, most of the long-term effort was put on ice and the programme concentrated on humanitarian efforts after ISIL took large parts of Iraq and created an enormous refugee catastrophe.

During 2014, the recently-begun work of Norwegian People's Aid in Egypt has been consolidated. During the extremely complicated political development in Egypt, our partners have shown themselves to be strategically situated, and together with our partners we have tried to prevent the freedom to organise from becoming further constricted. The war and the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria have been met with a humanitarian response mainly from our office in Turkey, but with some minor efforts from the office in Lebanon. More than 60,000 people have received food aid from our Syria programme, and other types of support have also been provided. Simultaneously, Norwegian People's Aid worked further on training activists and assisting local councils in Syria to function and strengthen their role in an otherwise chaotic situation, through a demanding project with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Work has also been done on securing financial support for a regional programme in the MENA region.

The Norad cooperation frame agreement has entered its third year, and we are seeing progress in the country programmes' ability to report results. We are seeing that people can affect policy when they organise themselves. For example, it can be mentioned that farmers in Mozambique and Cambodia have organised and negotiated with companies and government authorities to assert their right to land. In Iraq, a new law has been proposed in the Kurdish Parliament after people mobilised and lobbied to set aside oil revenues for the benefit of future generations. In Zimbabwe, mine workers and the organisations representing owners of small companies in the informal economy have formed alliances and organised campaigns. The government is finally in the process of recognising their claims and decriminalising activities. In Bolivia, women have organised themselves and achieved an increased number of women participating in politics and influencing the decision-making process. In Rwanda, Norwegian People's Aid's method of influencing the authorities through "community score cards" has become a recognised method in civil society, and we are seeing more and more people openly daring to challenge the authorities in this way.

In Myanmar, Norwegian People's Aid continues to play an important role in the peace process, and in the run-up to the election in 2015, Norwegian People's Aid is entering into an active involvement concerning activities related to the election.

Norwegian People's Aid has contributed to social movements having strengthened their influence on the peace process in Colombia and Norwegian authorities having gained greater understanding of the organisations' negotiations and mobilisation concerning land allocation beyond the peace negotiations.

Norwegian People's Aid also contributed to consultations being held in Norway on a trade agreement at the Norwegian Parliament: the EFTA – Colombia agreement.

Politically, work has been done in 2014 on the development of the successor to Inequality Watch, which was launched in 2012 as a contribution to the development policy debate.

Inequality Watch II, which was launched in March 2015 (postponed from December 2014), draws attention to the increasing concentration of wealth and economic power and that this can erode the foundation for democracy. It also includes a platform for reduction of inequality. A pilot study has also been done to look at the opportunities for doing something similar to Inequality Watch in the area of democracy.

We have also worked in 2014 on follow-up to the report "Farlige forbindelser – norske bånd til den israelske okkupasjonen" ("Dangerous Liaisons – Norwegian Ties to the Israeli Occupation") from 2012. NPA has a goal through political cooperation with the Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees of reducing economic, institutional and organisational ties between Norway and the Israeli occupation. A key to this is campaign and lobbying work, and in 2014 full focus was directed at SodaStream for a week in September. At the end of October, SodaStream announced that they will close their factory in the settlement Mishor Adumim in 2015.

The political work has also had particular focus on freedom to organise, and this has been taken up in input to the government authorities in many contexts. Active work has also been done on influencing the Norwegian Government's policy on

investments, for example, with regard to the Government Pension Fund Global and the Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries. This is in addition to political work and influence concerning a number of our country programmes.

The field offices of Norwegian People's Aid have received a number of trade union visits, and the organisation as a whole has actively arranged for the trade unions to gain greater insight and involvement with respect to the projects and country programmes they have agreements on.

A meeting was held for all country directors of Norwegian People's Aid in the autumn of 2014, with a focus on improving and making more efficient the operation of the country offices. Financial control and following up with our partners has been a special focus through the year, both in the development of new tools such as the "Partner Financial Assessment Tool" and following up on controller reports.

A mid-term evaluation was done of the implementation of the international strategy (2012-2015), and a major evaluation was done in cooperation with Norad of Norwegian People's Aids systems for financial management and control. In addition, an evaluation was done of the international department's humanitarian efforts.

The international unit has had an increase in turnover in 2014, especially because of increased humanitarian activity.

Work has been done on increasing the capacity for donor work in the country programmes, and dedicated personnel have been recruited in South Sudan and the MENA region.

Phasing out of Chile and Angola has been completed. Norwegian People's Aid collaborated with about 380 partner organisations, and the number of programme countries for the unit is 23 after phasing out Chile and Angola.

Time has been spent in the autumn of 2014 on the development of a proposal for guidelines for a new international strategy for 2015-2019. Both the membership organisation and Youth for Solidarity have been invited to the discussions.

#### HUMANITARIAN DISARMAMENT (HD)

Humanitarian Disarmament (HD) increased turnover in 2014 (especially in South East Asia), developed an exciting new operational concept and was a visible and significant political player in the professional field of humanitarian disarmament domestically and globally.

HD has been an active participant in the Governance Board for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), while it was decided to leave the editorial committee for Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor and establish an independent project for international monitoring of the implementation of the clearing obligations in the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. This work included production of the report "Clearing the Mines", which was presented at the Mine Ban Treaty's monitoring conference in Maputo and further development of the online tool for visualising progress in the implementation of the clearing obligations (see <http://www.npaid.org/mineactionmonitor>).

HD promoted the humanitarian disarmament strategy in 2014 to other mine clearance operators, donors and other players. HD also finished its work on a comprehensive Weapons policy (see [http://issuu.com/folkehjelp/docs/weapons\\_policy/1?e=3056008/11678742](http://issuu.com/folkehjelp/docs/weapons_policy/1?e=3056008/11678742)). The Weapons policy provides an overview of which weapons themes Norwegian People's Aid has viewpoints on and forms a platform for our influence work in the area.

As before, HD actively participated in 2014 on behalf of Norwegian People's Aid in the international boards of directors for the International Network on Explosive Weapons (INEW), the Toxic Remnants of War Network (TRWN) and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

HD also contributed to making Norwegian People's Aid a knowledgeable participant in the work on influencing Norway to continue a constructive role in the international work on banning nuclear weapons.

Operationally, HD then continued its work on promoting and forming an agenda concerning the great humanitarian problem of protecting civilians from explosive weapons (in populated areas), primarily in the form of developing an entirely new concept for preparedness and protection of civilians in conflict (Conflict Preparedness and Protection – CPP), which led to the starting up of pilot projects in 2015 (Gaza and hopefully Syria).

HD also completed a preliminary survey of cross-contamination with depleted uranium and mines/cluster munitions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The knowledge from this field-based work will support and inform Norwegian People's Aid's policy development and influence work in the area of toxic remnants of war.

In 2014, HD found and destroyed more than 23,000 cluster bombs, more than 5,600 mines and more than 31,000 other explosive remnants. HD liberated more than 16 million m<sup>2</sup>; in total this has had a direct positive effect on tens of thousands of people in close to 20 countries.

#### **IV PERSONNEL, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY**

At the end of 2014, Norwegian People's Aid had around 2,300 employees, of which there were 102 full-time equivalents at the administrative headquarters and the four regional offices, 82 full-time equivalents at the refugee reception centres, 85 full-time equivalents abroad on contract from Oslo and around 2,000 local employees in the projects abroad.

Absence due to sickness in 2014 was approximately 4 percent, which is an increase of well over one percent in comparison to the year before. Absence due to sickness for women was 4.2 percent, while for men it was 3.8 percent.

A local employee lost an eye in connection with cluster bomb clearing in Lebanon in January 2014, and unfortunately we also lost an employee in the same country in May in connection with clearing operations. One of our local employees in Tajikistan stepped on an anti-personnel mine in May and had to have the leg amputated below the knee.

In South Sudan, one of our local employees was shot and killed in Maban in the north-eastern part of the country in August 2014. One of our international employees in Tajikistan had a serious illness last year in which he had to be flown out of the country to get satisfactory medical care.

Otherwise, no serious injuries or accidents to employees in Norway or abroad have been reported. A working environment survey was conducted for the reception centres in 2014, and safety audits have been conducted.

#### **V GENDER EQUALITY AND DISCRIMINATION**

There are 57.3 % women and 42.7 % men employed at the administrative headquarters in Oslo. In the strategic management group, there were three women and no men, while in the expanded management group there were five women and eight men. There are seven women and nine men on the Board of Directors. Wages and working conditions at Norwegian People's Aid are adapted for both genders.

Of around 200 employees in Norway, around one fourth have an immigrant background in 2014. In the international operations, there were only 16 Norwegian citizens of the 85 employees with a contract from the headquarters in Oslo.

The organisation's personnel policy must ensure equal rights and opportunities for everyone regardless of gender, age, ethnicity and any disability. This is attended to through the recruiting processes and the day-to-day follow-up of the managers of Norwegian People's Aid.

#### **VI THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT**

The operations of Norwegian People's Aid affect the external environment only to a slight degree. The cooperation with partners focuses on the environmental as well as the social and economic sustainability of the international development work. The humanitarian cluster bomb and mine clearance work makes a positive contribution to the external environment.

#### **VII ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PURCHASES, INVESTMENTS AND MARKETING**

The Board of Directors of Norwegian People's Aid adopted revised Ethical Standards for Purchases, Investments and Marketing in 2013. These will be used in the global monitoring of partners to meet ethical requirements and circumstances related to employees' rights, human rights, respect for the environment and combating corruption. The standards rely in part on ILO and UN conventions in addition to Norwegian People's Aid's own principles, and updated procedures are being implemented globally for all of the activities of Norwegian People's Aid.



## **VIII FUTURE PROSPECTS**

Norwegian People's Aid will continue to influence Norwegian authorities to pursue a development policy that contributes to democratisation and focuses on whether developing countries are pursuing policies that contribute to greater economic and social equality.

With the national conference's adoption of a new programme of principles and the Board's approval of a new international strategy, the framework has been created for our long-term development work in the coming four-year period. The new cooperation agreement with Norad for the period 2012-2015 will ensure the basic financing of the development work, and in the future systematic and targeted efforts will be made to secure additional financing from other international donors. A number of countries need and are seeking mapping expertise and assistance in order to declare themselves mine-free. With regard to cluster bombs, the situation is clearer and more predictable because fewer countries are affected. At the same time, the cluster bomb convention is still in its initial phase and inspiring efforts in respect of both clearance and stockpile destruction internationally. Since this convention came into force, Norwegian People's Aid has increased its efforts to clear cluster bombs in the most severely affected countries and has established alternative, cost-effective methods for destroying stockpiles of such munitions. Just as for mine clearance, there is emphasis on supporting the signatory states with achieving the applicable targets in the Convention on Cluster Munitions for clearance and destruction. These will continue to be key activities at Norwegian People's Aid going forward.

On the basis of expertise built up in the area of cluster munitions and mine clearance, Norwegian People's Aid now wishes to continue to develop with respect to other weapon areas, both explosive weapons and other types of weapons regarded as inhumane. This will therefore be a priority area in the future.

Cooperation with the trade union movement has been reinforced over the past few years, and cooperation with the trade unions will be given even higher priority in the period to come. In agreements entered into with the trade unions, emphasis is placed on political cooperation on individual issues, the development of an organisational partnership and financial support for Norwegian People's Aid projects. The situation is right for developing the political and organisational cooperation further in the period ahead.

The income-producing work was prioritised in the previous national convention period and will continue to get high priority. In this context, significant foundation work has been done which is beginning to yield results. The regular donor concept "folkehjelper" will be prioritised at all levels in the organisation going forward, and institutional donors will get more attention.

### **Risk**

The Board focuses continuously on financial development and stresses the importance of ensuring that the organisation has adequate management and reporting systems. New procedures and tools for preparing budgets and forecasts were introduced in 2012. This is based on the need to ensure and implement sound control and quality in financial management. Focus on internal control has a high priority, and this work will be further strengthened in the coming years.

### **OPERATIONAL RISK**

In the international programme work, it must be taken into account that Norwegian People's Aid has a presence in countries with a high level of conflict and weak social structures. Guidelines and procedures to address this have therefore been drawn up.

Humanitarian clearance of explosives entails a high risk. This activity is regulated by international standards and is thus easily measurable. This means that Norwegian People's Aid must have the necessary follow-up and quality assurance capacity and skills for this work.

### **Financial risk**

Norwegian People's Aid wishes to accept as little financial risk as possible. The organisation has internal procedures for the allocation of currency gains to the various projects. As a part of currency management, donor funds are held in the donor's currency until they are transferred to programmes. Contracts with local Norwegian People's Aid's partners with regard to international development cooperation contain clauses to prevent currency risk. Norwegian People's Aid has no loans to external creditors and limited exposure to the stock market.

Many of the countries in which Norwegian People's Aid has a presence rank high on the list of the most corrupt, conflict-ridden countries in the world. It is important to maintain sufficient financial resilience to be able to withstand the losses that may occur due to activities in these countries. Norwegian People's Aid conducts strict global liquidity management. The financial risk is therefore considered to be moderate.

### Credit risk

Norwegian People's Aid has an interest rate swap agreement with DNB and is slightly exposed to the stock market. The creditors of Norwegian People's Aid consist mainly of donor funds that have not been used.

Oslo, 19 June 2015



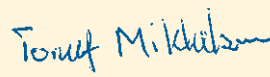
Finn Erik Thoresen  
Chairman of the Board



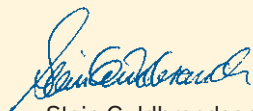
Kjersti E. R. Jenssen  
First Deputy Chairman



Atle Høie  
Second Deputy Chairman



Torulf Mikkelsen  
Northern Region



Stein Guldbrandsen  
Norwegian Confederation  
of Trade Unions



Anne Mette Johnsen  
Central Norway Region



Ludvig Eskeland  
South-Western Region



Liv Braathen  
South-Eastern Region



Elin Skovly  
Eastern Region



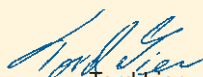
Jorge Alex Dahl  
Western Region



Ingrid Aspelund  
Youth for Solidarity



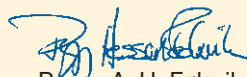
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Central Health and Rescue Committee



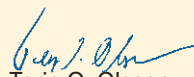
Tord Lier  
Employee Representative



Camilla L. Øverås  
Employee Representative



Peggy A. H. Følsvik  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Terje O. Olsson  
Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions



Liv Tørres  
Secretary General

To the General Assembly of  
Norwegian People's Aid

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Report on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Organization Norwegian People's Aid, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2014, the activity based income statement and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *The Board of Directors' and Secretary General's responsibility for the financial statements*

The Board of Directors and Secretary General are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Act and accounting standards and practices generally accepted in Norway, and for such internal control as the Board of Directors and Secretary General determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with laws, regulations, and auditing standards and practices generally accepted in Norway, including the International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.



We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Organization Norwegian People's Aid have been prepared in accordance with laws and regulations and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as of December 31, 2014, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Norwegian Accounting Act and accounting standards and practices generally accepted in Norway.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

#### *Opinion on the Board of Directors' report*

Based on our audit of the financial statements as described above, it is our opinion that the information presented in the Directors' report concerning the financial statements and the going concern assumption is consistent with the financial statements and complies with the law and regulations.

#### *Opinion on registration and documentation*

Based on our audit of the financial statements as described above, and control procedures we have considered necessary in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000, «Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information», it is our opinion that the Board of Directors and Secretary General have fulfilled their duty to properly record and document the Organization's accounting information as required by law and bookkeeping standards and practices generally accepted in Norway.

Oslo, 14 August 2015  
ERNST & YOUNG AS

Tommy Romskaug  
State Authorized Public Accountant (Norway)

(This translation from Norwegian has been made for information purposes only.)

See page 66 for signed Auditor's  
Report in Norwegian.

Til landsmøtet i Norsk Folkehjelp

## REVISORS BERETNING

### Uttalelse om årsregnskapet

Vi har revidert årsregnskapet for Norsk Folkehjelp, som består av balanse per 31. desember 2014, aktivitetsregnskap og kontantstrømoppstilling for regnskapsåret avsluttet per denne datoen, og en beskrivelse av vesentlige anvendte regnskapsprinsipper og andre noteopplysninger.

#### Styrets og generalsekretærs ansvar for årsregnskapet

Styret og generalsekretær er ansvarlig for å utarbeide årsregnskapet og for at det gir et rettvisende bilde i samsvar med regnskapslovens regler og god regnskapsskikk i Norge, og for slik intern kontroll som styret og generalsekretær finner nødvendig for å muliggjøre utarbeidelsen av et årsregnskap som ikke inneholder vesentlig feilinformasjon, verken som følge av misligheter eller feil.

#### Revisors oppgaver og plikter

Vår oppgave er å gi uttrykk for en mening om dette årsregnskapet på bakgrunn av vår revisjon. Vi har gjennomført revisjonen i samsvar med lov, forskrift og god revisjonsskikk i Norge, herunder International Standards on Auditing. Revisjonsstandardene krever at vi etterlever etiske krav og planlegger og gjennomfører revisjonen for å oppnå betryggende sikkerhet for at årsregnskapet ikke inneholder vesentlig feilinformasjon.

En revisjon innebærer utførelse av handlinger for å innhente revisjonsbevis for beløpene og opplysningene i årsregnskapet. De valgte handlingene avhenger av revisors skjønn, herunder vurderingen av risikoene for at årsregnskapet inneholder vesentlig feilinformasjon, enten det skyldes misligheter eller feil. Ved en slik risikovurdering tar revisor hensyn til den interne kontrollen som er relevant for organisasjonens utarbeidelse av et årsregnskap som gir et rettvisende bilde. Formålet er å utføre revisjonshandlinger som er hensiktsmessige etter omstendighetene, men ikke for å gi uttrykk for en mening om effektiviteten av organisasjonens interne kontroll. En revisjon omfatter også en vurdering av om de anvendte regnskapsprinsippene er hensiktsmessige og om regnskapsestimatenes utarbeidelse av ledelsen er rimelige, samt en vurdering av den samlede presentasjonen av årsregnskapet.

Etter vår oppfatning er innhentet revisjonsbevis tilstrekkelig og hensiktsmessig som grunnlag for vår konklusjon.

#### Konklusjon

Etter vår mening er årsregnskapet for Norsk Folkehjelp avgitt i samsvar med lov og forskrifter og gir et rettvisende bilde av organisasjonens finansielle stilling per 31. desember 2014 og av dens resultater og kontantstrømmer for regnskapsåret som ble avsluttet per denne datoen i samsvar med regnskapslovens regler og god regnskapsskikk i Norge.

### Uttalelse om øvrige forhold

#### Konklusjon om årsberetningen

Basert på vår revisjon av årsregnskapet som beskrevet ovenfor, mener vi at opplysningene i årsberetningen om årsregnskapet, forutsetningen om fortsatt drift er konsistente med årsregnskapet og er i samsvar med lov og forskrifter.

#### Konklusjon om registrering og dokumentasjon

Basert på vår revisjon av årsregnskapet som beskrevet ovenfor, og kontrollhandlinger vi har funnet nødvendig i henhold til internasjonal standard for attestasjonsoppdrag (ISAE) 3000 «Attestasjonsoppdrag som ikke er revisjon eller forenklet revisorkontroll av historisk finansiell informasjon», mener vi at styret og generalsekretær har oppfylt sin plikt til å sørge for ordentlig og oversikkelig registrering og dokumentasjon av organisasjonens regnskapsopplysninger i samsvar med lov og god bokføringskikk i Norge.

Oslo, 14. august 2015  
ERNST & YOUNG AS



Tommy Rohnskaug  
statsautorisert revisor

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### We would like to thank our partners in 2014

- Baneservice
- Compass Group
- Coop Norge SA
- The Norwegian Labour Party
- The Department for International Development (DFID)
- DNB
- Electrician and IT Workers Union
- The Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees
- The Norwegian United Federation of Trade Unions
- The Norwegian Union of Social Educators and Social Workers
- The Norwegian Engineers and Managers Association (FLT)
- The Norwegian Union of Commerce and Office Employees (HK)
- Industri Energi
- The Kavli Trust
- Lions Club 104-G
- The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO)
- NORAD
- The Norwegian Union of General Workers
- The Norwegian Union of Railway Workers
- The Norwegian Union of Railway Workers
- The Norwegian Union of Food and Allied Workers
- The Norwegian Civil Service Union (NTL)
- The Norwegian Transport Workers' Union (NTF)
- The Norwegian Post and Communications Union
- Sentrumsløpet
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- SpareBank 1 Organisasjonsmarked
- Statoil
- The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The European Commission
- The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
- The German Federal Foreign Office
- The International Trust Fund for Demining and Victim Assistance
- The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
- The Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI)
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
- US Department of State
- The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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